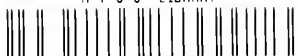


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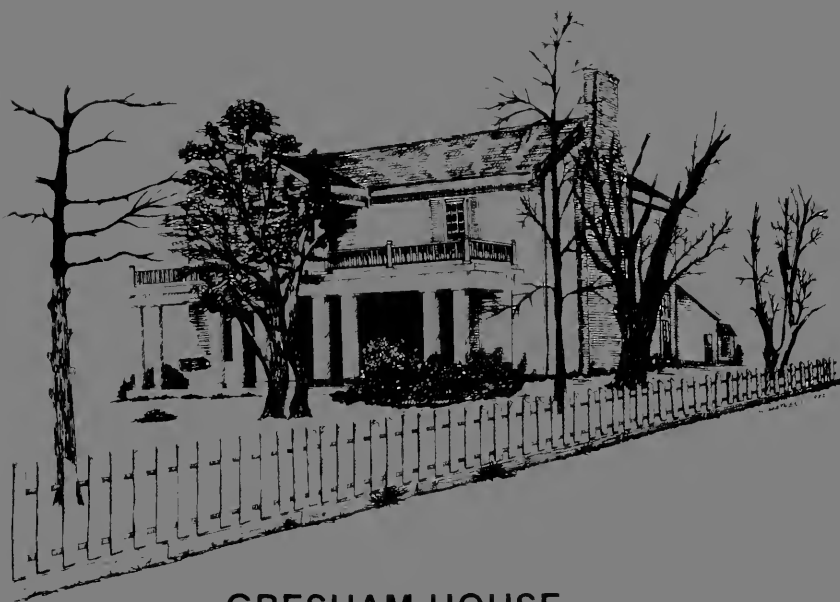
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# RUTHERFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Publication No. 19



GRESHAM HOUSE



Summer 1982

Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130





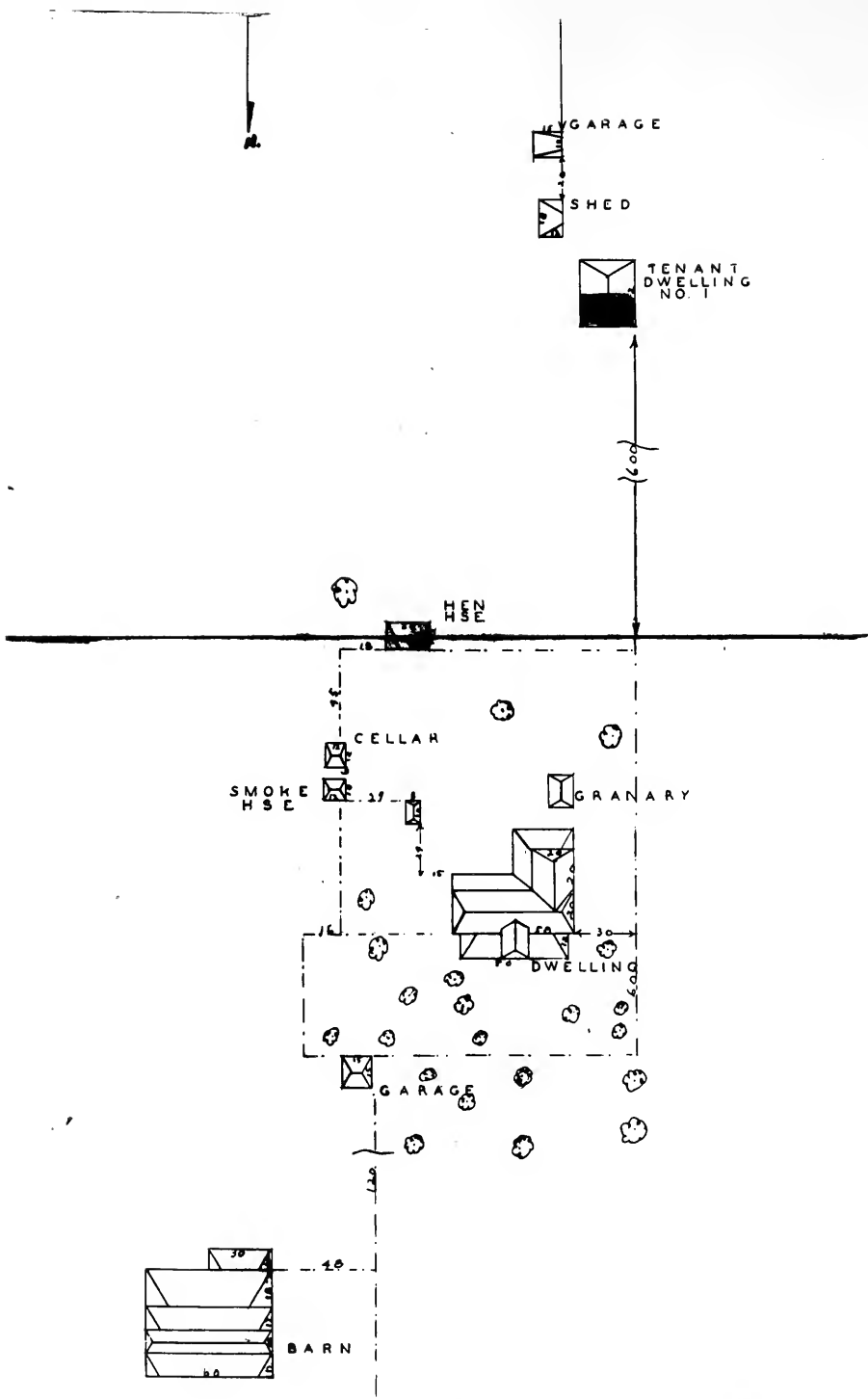
## THE GRESHAM HOUSE

When Capt. Asa Gresham joined the 18th Tennessee Infantry CSA little did he realize that his comfortable home would become the most famous house on the Stones River Battlefield. He also would not have believed that two years later it would again, in December 1864, become a part of the history of the War Between the States.

Capt. Greshams' home was built by Nimrod Jenkins, Mrs. Greshams first husband. Nimrod Jenkins brother Hiram built on the same large tract of land (1920 acres) owned by their father Aaron Jenkins. Hiram's house being about a quarter of a mile west of Nimrod's. Both houses were constructed of log and later they were covered and enlarged with clap board siding. The similarity of the two homes has sometimes confused people studying the Battle of Stones River. Hiram Jenkins house is still being lived in although Interstate 24 now crosses the front yard and passes between the two original sights. The Nimrod Jenkins or Gresham house was torn down in 1950.

The military history of the Gresham house can be traced through the official records of the War of the Rebellion in both federal and confederate reports. It is unusual for a house that was used as a battlefield hospital to have so many reports referring to it. All the area military maps show its location. I will not go into the details of its part in the Battle of Stones River nor of its part in the Battle of the Cedars on the 7th of December 1864. These details can readily be found in any good book written on the battles.

Both of these homes were bought by the Ragland family in the 1930's and the pictures and house site plat were made in 1940 for insurance purposes. In 1948 both farms were sold to the Martindale family. The Gresham farm and house site is owned today by the Lane family. The house was located on the (Wilkinson) Manson turnpike and the Southeast corner of the old Gresham Lane, that is now closed.



RUTHERFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PUBLICATION NO. 19

Published by the

RUTHERFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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All correspondence concerning additional copies, contributions to future issues, and membership should be addressed to:

Rutherford County Historical Society  
Box 906  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130



## DEDICATION

to

Dr. Homer Pittard

When Shakespeare had Malvolia challenge Fabian in Twelfth Night to be what he willed to be a pattern was set for all those who achieve greatness through courageous determination. Dr. Homer Pittard is a notable example of Rutherford countians who were neither born great or had greatness thrust upon them - - but achieve greatness through intellectual ability and prodigious labor.

This remarkably gentle man of gigantic frame may be best remembered for his contributions to the painstaking pursuit of historic minutiae in education and religion. These activities, along with the organization of the Rutherford County Historical Society in November 1971, his decade of work as County Historian, a member of the Rutherford County Historical Commission, an ardent developer of Cannonsburg, his authorship of two books and numerous publications, make the dedication of this volume of RCHS Publications percularily fitting and apt.

From the relatively obscure Trimble Community in northeast Rutherford County emerged this versatile individual who was to have such marked recognition as an educator, historian, author, lay religious leader and community servant. He came to know and be known by his contemporaries in each of these areas. It was fittingly said he was "qualitatively involved in so much."

As an educator, Homer first gained reputation for his ability to



combine stern discipline with a sympathetic comprehension of the children of the McFadden Community. As principal of the Murfreesboro Central High School he introduced such sound administration and perception for growth requirements that Central's athletic prowess and academic excellence became regionally recognized.

While at Central he found opportunity at nights, on weekends and in the summer to complete his Doctor of Philosophy at Peabody College with unusual distinction.

In 1955, twenty years after exhibiting the paradoxical ability to both captain the undefeated football team and edit the Midlander, Dr. Pittard returned to his Alma Mater to teach.

Dr. Pittard's numerous contributions to the enhancement of Middle Tennessee State University were most notable in the department of Education and later when he served as alumni and campus relations director. He organized MTSU alumni clubs from Miami to Washington, D.C. He was promoter of the MTSU Foundation, counselor of the Midlander, editor of the MIDSTATER and author of Fifty Golden Years, the story of the first half century of the school. He was a representative on the Southern Association of Schools and served as chairman of many Association evaluating committees.

His dedication to Christian living and his First Baptist Church affiliation offered opportunity to serve as deacon, teacher and Sunday School superintendent. The Pillar and Ground was a lofty labor of love depicting with historical candor the story of his congregation.

As a chairman of the Rutherford County School Board, as past president of the Murfreesboro Rotary Club, trustee of the Sam Davis Home, and work





with the Oaklands Mansion Men's Board he gave generously of his forceful personality to build the community.

The college romance of Homer Pittard and Mable Baxter of Lawrenceburg culminated in a beautiful and lasting marriage. To their son, John, a member of the Murfreesboro City Council, and their daughter, Ann, they transmit a challenging heritage.

Dr. Homer Pittard was a modest, sensitive, compassionate man. In his varied writings he disdained hyperbole while demonstrating and entertaining, accurate and informative style.

A man of steadfast dignity, tireless devotion, unusual talent he was a delightful conversationalist, a trusted advisor and confidant.

Certainly the passing of this one diminishes us all.

In recognizing his accomplishments as a historian, in education, religion and as public servant the Rutherford County Historical Society dedicates this Publication No. 19 to his memory.



FOR SALE

THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS ARE FOR SALE BY:

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Box 906  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130

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HISTORY of RUTHERFORD COUNTY by C. C. Sims

A reprint of the 1947 edition of our county  
history contains 230 pages with index and  
hard covers -----

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AVAILABLE FROM: William Walkup  
202 Ridley Street  
Smyrna, Tn 37167

Rutherford County Map 1878, shows land owners--  
\$ 3.50 + \$ 1.00 postage

CEMETERY RECORDS of Rutherford County:

Vol. 1 : Northwestern third of county and part of Wilson and  
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FOOT PRINTS IN THE MUD AND DUST  
AT SMYRNA, TENNESSEE

1

By Walter K. Hoover

To the north of the present Smyrna railroad depot by horse and buggy, about a mile on the now unused dirt road that led to the Jefferson Pike, the old Gooch and Nelson homes, in the vicinity of where the Hart's Branch empties into the Stewart's Creek, stood an early Presbyterian Church by the name of Smyrna. The name Smyrna was derived from a biblical church in Asia Minor mentioned by the Apostles in their writings in the Bible records.

The families that worshipped here, populated the rich bottom lands along the Stewart's Creek and Stones River and were first and second generations of the early settlers.

To the south of Smyrna on the Nashville-Murfreesboro stage road or toll pike was a community known as Stewartsboro. This consisted of stage stop, post office, blacksmith shops, merchants, etc. Olive Grove M.E. Church was in this vicinity.

By the 1850's the Nashville or Mid-Tennessee area was producing many products-cotton, livestock, wheat, wool, corn and etc. Having no market except by wagon or boat to New Orleans, the area conceived and built the railroad to get these products to Chattanooga where an existing railroad would take them to Charleston, S.C. and the world markets, by ship. Cotton went to the mills in England and came back as cloth and cotton products.

As the railroad was being completed 1851-1855, it was decided to have a station between these two communities. Mr. John F. Tucker and brother Silas Tucker, who owned the land where the present depot is located were given the privilege of naming the station. They being devout Presbyterians, and members of this early church, chose the name Smyrna.

In 1855 the railroad company bought a track of land on the east side of the railroad tracks, adjacent to the depot which was subdivided, laid off in lots and streets. These lots were soon sold thus forming the town of Smyrna.

# AUCTION SALE OF LOTS!

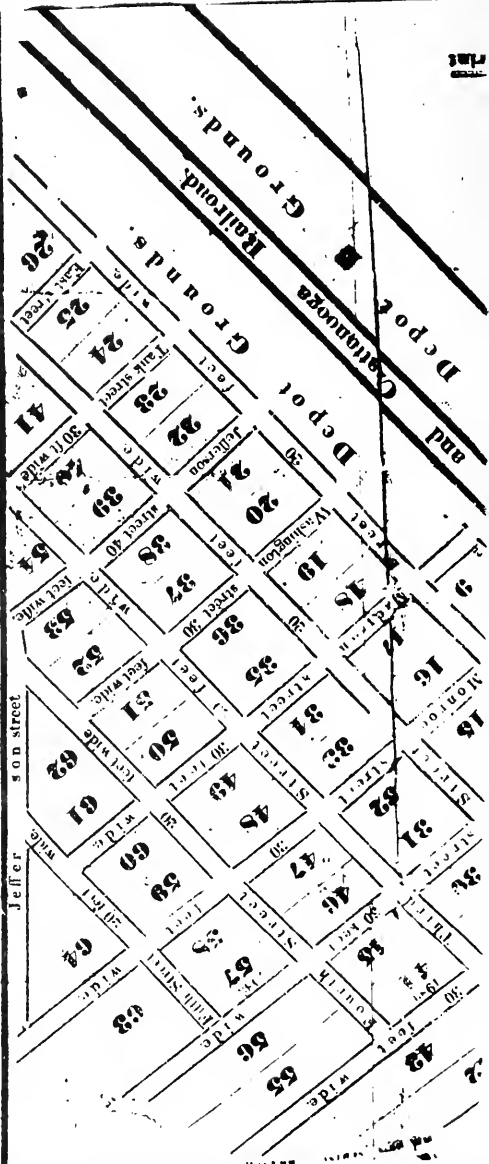
## AT SMYRNA DEPOT, ON THE N. & CHATTANOOGA R. R.

On SATURDAY, the 28th inst., the sale of Lots in the plan below will take place. Smyrna Depot is situated 30 miles from Nashville and 10 miles from Murfreesboro', and is a beautiful location for a town, in a very rich and fertile neighborhood, which is already thickly inhabited and the surrounding farms in a high state of cultivation. There is not a more eligible point on the Railroad from Nashville to Chattanooga, for a pleasant and retired residence. Those wishing a handsome and desirable village location, free from the noise of a city, should examine the place before the day of sale.

Terms made known on the day of sale.

(April 7, 1855.)

A. G. HENDERSON, Agent.





In a few years came the smoke, fire and destruction of the Civil War. Most of the plans and hopes for Smyrna were swept away in the five years of conflict over, in, and around Smyrna, and the new railroad.

Yet just four years after this ordeal of war, and amid the union domination of the Tennessee legislature, and the destitute conditions, Smyrna asked for, and acquired a Charter of Incorporation in 1869.

I have discovered that in 1869-71, Mr. Joseph R. Dillin, a unionist, was a representative from Rutherford County in the House of Legislature. Mr. Dillin had a new home completed in 1865-67 known today as the old Tucker house on Oak Street in Smyrna. This house was not in the Smyrna Corporation limits. The Brainard Cheneys live there today. The house is a beautiful two story brick of that period. Joseph had a brother who ran a general merchandise store on lot number 20, 1855 map. Joseph was a lawyer and the family was apparently quite wealthy.

The Dillin family left Smyrna soon after the Civil War.

The Senator from Rutherford County 1869-71 was Mr. William Spence. Don't know where he lived. I wonder how these people related to the new Charter of Incorporation.

By word of mouth I had been informed that Mr. Joseph Engles had been the first Mayor of Smyrna, 1869. By evidence of record I knew his son Dr. J. W. Engles to be the first mayor of Smyrna under a new and different Charter of Incorporation in 1915.

Let me relate to you the circumstances that brought the following evidence to my attention. Evidence that shows the Engles family took care to preserve the record book of the 1869 to 1881 City of Smyrna records, only to come back to light be sheer circumstance.

This book itself, evidently was left in Smyrna by some officer of the Union Army during the Civil War. It is a large ledger type book seventeen and one half inches tall, eleven and one half inches wide(when closed), leather bound, quite shaken or loose, worm eaten, and dirty, yet the contents are still legible.

# MORNING REPORT of the SICK and WOUNDED in the

at

186

DATE	REGIMENT.	REMARKS.				
		Company.	In Hospital.	In Quarters.	Taken Sick.	In Hospital.
		Remaining at last Report.	Total.			
				Returned to Duty.	Discharged.	Sent to General Hospital.
				Died.	In Ill.	In Quarter.

*This page is one of the many unused pages from the 1869 to 1881 minute book of the town of Smyrna, Tenn.*

(See insert of one of the pages). So four years after the war when Smyrna needed the then scarce item of paper material to record the incorporation, and continuing minutes and records, some one came up with this Civil War record book. It proved to be an excellent choice.

Never in my memory, or in any records have I discovered any mention of these records, until in 1968-69 when the Tennessee State Highway Department was purchasing right-of-way for Interstate I-24, in the vicinity of Almadillo Road, Will Neely and wife Ella(Engles) Neely, living on a farm in that vicinity, were forced to sell and evacuate. Ella was the daughter of our first Mayor Dr. J. W. Engles of 1915 Incorporation, and, he the son of Joseph Engles first mayor of 1869 Incorporation. Dr. Engles lived with this daughter Ella in his latter years, having died several years ago.

This Neely-Engles house was located on a knob directly in the northeast quadrant of the I-24 Almadillo Road Interchange.

Two neighbors, brothers Ellis and Mitchell McGowan, tore down this Neely house and moved everything remaining off the property. Evidently this book was part of the remains.

The McGowan brothers being of an early family and still maintaining an old home place nearby took much of the material there. Their home was across the branch from the early Brown and later Isam Peebles home. Ellis having married and living in a new house near by, Mitchell a bachelor remained at the old home. Mitchell died in 1970, February 28, after which the McGowan house was not used for a dwelling. Sometime there after several boys prowling through the old house came upon this old book and secretly brought it to Smyrna where they lived. Ellis McGowan living nearby, discovered the break-in and made some attempt to discover who. I am not aware of what else may have been taken, if any.

The boys not wanting to be discovered, secreted the book, but discovering the content could not keep quiet. On several occasions one of the boys came to me, knowing my great interest in Smyrna history, in a feeble attempt to learn of its value, or to sell it to me.

I never saw the book or knew of its content and for many months, it disappeared again. Eventually the book was placed in the public library at Smyrna, where I got my first look at it.

An important piece of evidence of Smyrna history, it is now secured in the Smyrna Room of the library, microfilmed, pages laminated and available for research.

This story is interesting evidence of where this book has been for about one hundred years and how it came to where it is today.

The following is copied from the Acts of the Tennessee Legislature of 1869. Dewitt C. Senter, a conservative Republican was governor.

- Town of Smyrna.      Sec. 19. Be it further enacted that the inhabitants of the Town of Smyrna, in the County of Rutherford, are hereby constituted a corporation and body politic, by the name and style of the "Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Smyrna", and by that name shall have perpetual succession; shall sue and be sued; plead and be impleaded in all courts of law and equality, and in all actions whatsoever; may purchase, receive and hold property, real and personal, within said town, or without, its limits for corporate purposes, and may lease, sell, or dispose of the same for the benefit of said town; and may make such contracts for public grounds and promenades, as may be deemed beneficial to said town; they shall have and use a common seal, and shall change it at pleasure.
- Officers.            Sec. 20. Be it further enacted, that the officers of the town shall consist of a mayor, five aldermen, a town constable, and a treasurer. The mayor shall act and have all the rights and powers of a recorder, in addition to his other powers and privileges; he shall be exempt as a jurymen, or from serving on juries. Other officers deemed necessary by the mayor and aldermen shall be elected and authorized by a vote of the mayor and aldermen.
- How elected.        Sec. 21. Be it further enacted, that the mayor and aldermen shall be elected by the qualified voters of said corporation; that all parties owning property within the corporate limits of said town, whether actual residents of the town or not, if said parties are qualified voters, under the laws of the State of Tennessee; that all officers of the corporation shall hold their offices for one year and until their successors are elected and qualified.
- Sheriff to hold election, etc.      Sec. 22. Be it further enacted, that the sheriff of the County of Rutherford, shall open the polls in said town, on the 20th day of December for the purpose of electing officers of the corporation; and shall issue certificates to the parties receiving the highest number of votes, which certificate shall become a part of the records of said corporation; and upon the presentation of such certificates from the sheriff, the party holding the same shall be sworn as such corporate officer, by any justice of the peace of said county, to whom the same may be presented; provided that no person shall be eligible or qualified as mayor or alderman, who is not a householder within and an actual resident of the corporate limits.

Vacancies.

Sec. 23. Be it further enacted, that all vacancies occurring by death, resignation or removal, shall be filled by a vote of the mayor and aldermen or by the aldermen, if the vacancy be that of the mayor.

General powers and privileges.

Sec. 24. Be it further enacted, that the number of alderman of said corporation shall be five, who shall, in connection with the mayor, elect a town constable.

Sec. 25. Be it further enacted, that the mayor and aldermen shall have power, by ordinance, with the town;

1st. To levy and collect taxes upon all property taxable by law, for State purposes.

2nd. To levy and collect taxes upon all privileges and polls taxable by the laws of the State; provided that the poll-tax shall not exceed two dollars annually, and provided that no person shall vote in said corporation, who, at the time he presents his ballot, has not paid his corporation poll-tax for twelve months last past.

3rd. To appropriate money provided for the payment of the debts and expenses of the town, by levy of a special tax, when the same shall be necessary.

Streets, etc.

4th. To make regulations to prevent the introduction of contagious diseases into said town, and to prevent and remove nuisances; to open alleys; to abolish, widen, extend, establish, grade, pave, or otherwise improve, clean and keep in repair streets, alleys and side-walks, or to have the same done at the expense of the owners of the grounds fronting thereto, when they refuse, after notice, to have the same work done.

5th. To establish, support and regulate a night-watch and patrol.

Buildings.

6th. To erect a calaboose or lock-up, and regulate the government of the same.

7th. To provide for the erection of all buildings necessary for the use of the town, and to pass laws making the injury, defacing, or destruction thereof, a misdemeanor.

Taxes.

8th. To regulate, license and tax auctioneers, grocers, merchants, and druggists of every description, retailers, taverns, brokers, coffee-houses, confectionaries, retailers, of liquors, hawkers and peddlers, livery stable keepers, and all other matters within the corporation limits; and especially shows, exhibitions and amusements.

9th. To prohibit and suppress all disorderly and bawdy houses, houses within, or near proximity to the corporate limits.

Sale of provision, etc.

10th. To provide for the inspection and weighing of stone, coal, measuring of wood, and all other fuel, also hay, corn, and all other grain; to regulate the inspection of butter, lard and other provision; and to make such general provisions with regard to the vending of meats, poultry, fish and vegetable, as well protect the town against impositions, and preserve the rights of vendees, as well as that of the venders.

Breaches of ordinances, etc.

11th. To impose fines, forfeitures and penalties for the breach of any ordinance, and to provide for the recovery of the same; with full power to imprison offender or offenders for refusal or failure to discharge or secure, according to ordinance, fines imposed upon them, either in the county jail or town calaboose, for a period not exceeding ten days; to provide for the arrest and confinement, either in the calaboose or county jail, of all disorderly persons within

the town by day or by night; to authorize the arrest of all suspicious persons, and the detention thereof, who may be found violating the ordinances of said corporation.

Violations of  
the peace,  
penalties,  
etc.

12th. To prevent and punish by pecuniary penalties and imprisonment all violations of the peace and disorderly conduct, within the corporate limits; and to suppress any disorderly conduct or unusual noise in any house, or upon any premises in said town, by arresting and punishing the parties creating the same. The mayor said town shall have full power, in his capacity as mayor, and in his capacity as justice of the peace, to assess fines, render judgments and issue executions thereon; and the same shall be in all respects binding, unless the party fined shall appeal to the Circuit Court of said county, in which case the mayor, in his capacity as such, or in his capacity as justice of the peace, shall certify up the papers, which papers so certified, shall be received in the Circuit Court, or other Superior Court, as evidence; the usual bond shall be given in all cases of appeal.

Officers to  
give bond.

13th. The mayor and aldermen shall have all the powers and enjoy all the privileges usually enjoyed by other corporate bodies of a similar nature..

Sec. 26. Be it further enacted that all of the officers of said corporation, who, by law, are entrusted with any of the funds of said corporation, shall be required to give bond, to be approved by the mayor and aldermen of said town.

Boundry of  
Corporation.

Sec. 27. Be it further enacted, that the Corporation of Smyrna shall be bounded as follows: Beginning in the center of Hart's Branch, under the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad bridge, which is over said branch; thence running up said branch eight poles; thence parallel with the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad in an eastern direction to the center of a county road, which leads from Smyrna depot to the Nashville and Murfreesboro Turnpike, intersecting said pike near and east of Old Stewartsboro; thence on a line perpendicular to said Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad; thence with the line of J. R. Dillin to the north bank of Hart's Branch; thence with said north bank of said branch to the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad; thence with said road to the beginning.

Responsible  
for fees.

Sec. 28. Be it further enacted, that the Corporation of Smyrna shall be responsible to the officer of said town for all fees due by reasons if inability of the parties to pay said fees, who have been arrested for violating the corporate laws.

Constable.

Sec. 29. Be it further enacted, that the constable of said town shall have full and complete authority to receive executions, levy the same, and sell property for the collection of fines and forfeitures, and shall be liable by action before any justice of the peace, for any failure to promptly discharge his duties.

Sec. 30. Be it further enacted, that no description of property shall be exempt from execution for fines or forfeitures.

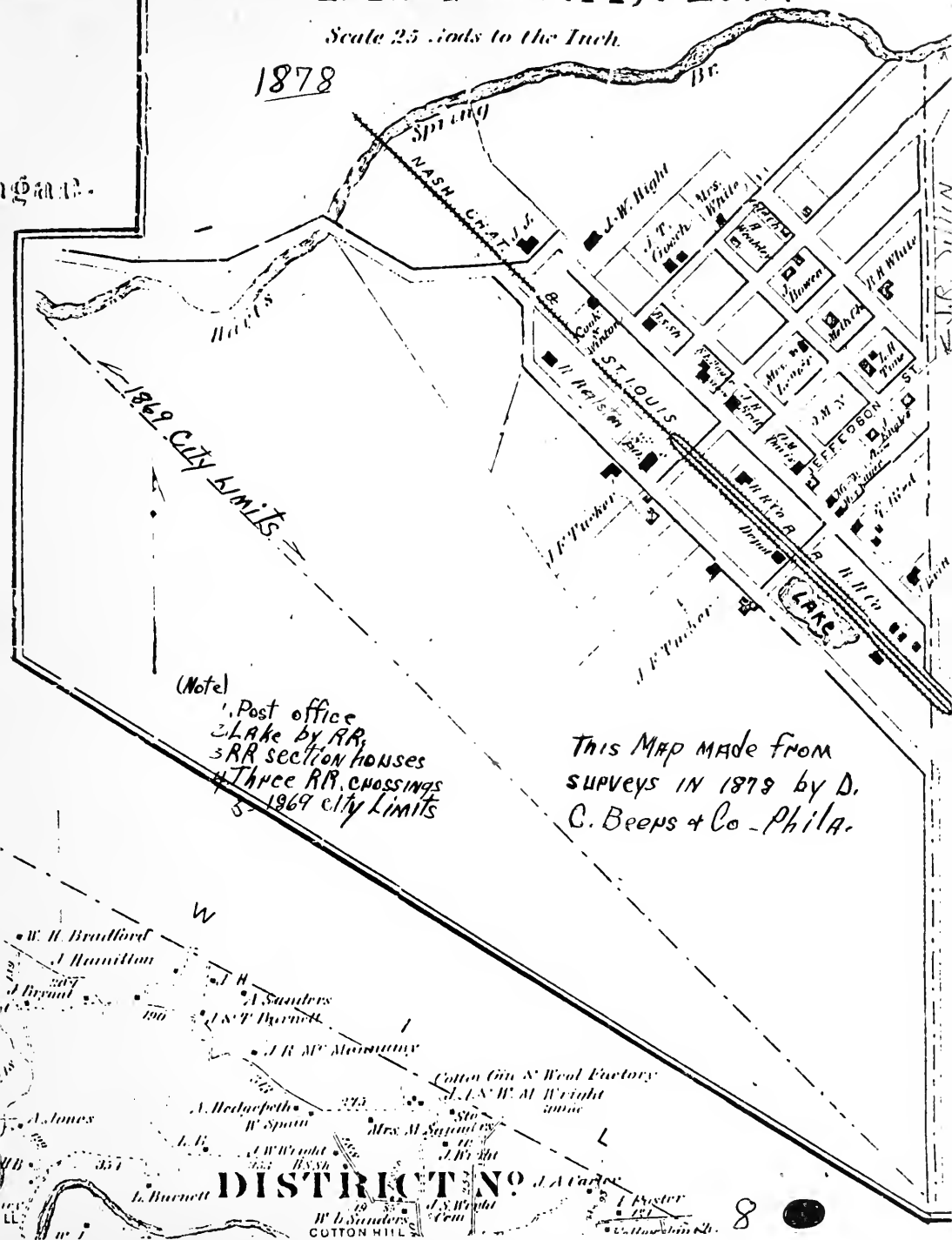
Sec. 40. Be it further enacted, that this act shall take effect from and after its passage.

# SMYRNA, TENN.

Scale 25 rods to the Inch.

1878

1869



(Note)

1. Post office
2. Lake by RR
3. RR section houses
4. Three RR crossings
5. 1869 city Limits

This Map made from  
surveys in 1878 by D.  
C. Beers & Co. Phila.

DISTRICT NO. 1

COTTON HILL

W. O'N. Perkins  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
D.B. Thomas  
Speaker of the Senate

Passed December 10, 1869

So that the readers may orientate themselves to the life styles of these times, I offer these thoughts.

These citizens of Smyrna had no telephone, no bathrooms, no automobiles, airplanes or television, no side walks or paved streets.

They had few neighbors, few schools or churches, few fine clothing or shoes. Hard work and small pay. Many daily domestic chores to maintain comfort and survival.

The woods and the fields were intimate, church was the center of social life. Entertainment consisted of a school box-supper, a traveling show, a Sunday buggy drive to grandmothers or a visit to a neighbor.

Good books, sewing or needle work, a vegetable garden and canning food, wood cutting, feeding the livestock, drawing water, making fires, hogkilling, and harvesting kept them busy. All this is done today be modern energy and machines.

--Walter K. Hoover

RECORD OF THE CORPORATION OF SMYRNA COPIED FROM MINUTE BOOK

December 20,  
1869.

We the undersigned judges and clerks appointed to open and hold an election at Smyrna on December 20, 1869 do certify that Joseph Engles received twenty five votes for mayor. James W. Hight twenty five votes for town constable, R. H. Dudley, J. T. Gooch, J. L. Elder and J. L. Poynor twenty five votes each for aldermen and L. B. White twenty one votes for aldermen; Clerks: J. L. Poynor, L. B. White: Judges: J. T. H. Lenoir, J. W. Wright, T. J. Reed.

I, John H. Adkerson, Deputy Sheriff of Rutherford County deputized to open and hold an election in the town of Smyrna in said county on the 20th day of December 1869 for the purpose of electing a mayor and five aldermen, do certify that in accordance to previous notice I have opened and held said elections and that Joseph Engles received the highest number of votes for mayor, that James W. Hight the highest number of votes for constable, and R. H. Dudley, J. T. Gooch, J. T. Elder, J. L. Poynor and L. B. White the highest number of votes for aldermen. This December 20, 1869.

J. H. Adkerson, Deputy Sheriff



On December 20, 1869, J. R. Dillin, Esquire, qualified the mayor and aldermen, to witt, Joseph Engles as mayor, John L. Poynor, R. H. Dudley, J. L. Elder, L. B. White and James T. Gooch as aldermen. Also J. W. Hight as constable.

December  
22, 1869.

The mayor and aldermen had a meeting on the 22nd of December and ordained the following laws to govern the incorporation of Smyrna the mayor being in the chair.

1. Be it ordained by the mayor and aldermen of the town of Smyrna, that any person or persons who may be convicted before the mayor for the offense of selling spiritous or mault liquors, wine or cider on the Sabbath, such person or persons shall pay a fine in a sum of not less than five or more than twenty five dollars for each offense.

2. Be if further ordained that any person or persons who may be convicted of disturbing the public worship within the corporate limits, such person, or persons, shall be fined in the sum of not less than ten or more than twenty five dollars for each offense.

3. Be it further ordained that every person that may be convicted of being intoxicated and disturbing the public peace within the corporate limits, shall be fined in a sum of not less than one or more than ten dollars for each offense.

4. Be it further ordained, that any person that may be convicted of firing within the corporate limits any rifle or shotgun or pistol, shall be fined in the sum of not less than one or more than five dollars for each offense.

5. Be it further ordained that any person or persons who may be convicted of using obscene language or indecent exposure of person shall be fined not less than two or more than ten dollars for each offense.

6. Be it further ordained that each and every person convicted of any offense against the corporation of the Town of Smyrna, such person or persons shall pay all costs occuring in the case, and such costs shall not exceed the cost in criminal offense before magistrate.

7. Be it further ordained that any person or persons convicted of using language to provoke the breach of the peace shall be fined not less than one nor more than ten dollars for each offense.

8. The fines being appropriated for the use and benefit of the Town of Smyrna.

Attest  
Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

December 22.

The mayor and aldermen then confirmed the election of J. W. Hight for town constable, and then proceeded to the election of a treasurer and two policemen. The elections

resulted in the election of J. L. Poynor for treasurer and H. Hight and John Hager as policemen. The mayor then qualified Henry Hight and John Hager for the faithful discharge of their duty. The meeting then closed and agreed to meet every first and third Tuesday each month.

Attest

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

January 4,  
1870.

The mayor and aldermen met pursuant to adjournment and ordained the following laws:

Be it further ordained that any person or persons convicted of gaming within the corporate limits shall be fined not less than two or more than ten dollars for each offense, and forfeit the funds at stake.

A motion was then made and second for the mayor to appoint a committee of three including the mayor and two aldermen to draft ordinances to rule the Corporation of Smyrna, to be submitted however to the vote of the Board of Aldermen for adoption. The mayor then appointed J. T. Gooch and R. H. Dudley on said committee.

The following ordinance was then passed by a by-law. Be it further ordained that the ordinary parliamentary rules are adopted for the government of the board of mayor and aldermen. The board then adjourned till the next regular meeting.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

January 11,  
1870.

The mayor and aldermen met pursuant to adjournment there being no quorum. No business was called and the board adjourned until next regular meeting.

January 18,  
1870.

There being no quorum present, adjourned until next regular meeting.

February 8,  
1870.

The mayor and aldermen met pursuant to adjournment and passed the following resolutions: Resolved that James W. Hight be requested to solicit a subscription of the citizens of Smyrna, and the neighborhood for the purpose of building a police station within the said corporation, and to report at the next regular meeting.

The board then proceeded to the election of one alderman, there being vacancy by the removal of J. Elder out of the corporation. Jobe being elected he was qualified as an alderman.

The board then proceeded to the election of two policeman, there being a vacancy of one policeman by the removal of Henry Hight out of the limits of the corporation. Henry Brewer was elected policeman also George Hight.

Alderman Poynor then presented his account for a docket for the use of said corporation and the amount of five dollars was allowed.

The board then ordained the following law: Be it ordained by the mayor and aldermen that any person or persons who may be convicted of admitting any person or persons not being connected with the saloon(drinking) into a saloon on Sunday, within the corporate limits, shall be fined not less than ten nor more than twenty five dollars for each offense.

The committee to draft by-laws allowed further time to make report. The board then adjourned until next regular meeting.

February 9,  
1870.

The mayor qualified Henry Brewer as policeman for the faithful discharge of his duty.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

February 22,  
1870.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. George Hight refused to serve, the board proceeded to the election of a policeman in his stead. Mr. B. W. Jackson being nominated, was elected and qualified for the faithful discharge of his duty.

The board then ordained the following ordinance: Be it further ordained that we levy a privilege tax on all merchants, drinking saloons, grocers, druggist of every description. Retailers of liquors, hawkers, and peddlers, taverns, coffee houses, livery stables, theatrical and other show, exhibitions and amusements of five dollars each.

Be it further ordained that we levy a poll on each and every person entitled to vote in the corporation of Smyrna, for the office of mayor and aldermen of two dollars on each poll.

Be it further ordained that we levy a tax on all real estate within the corporate limits of one eighth of one percent. A resolution was then passed to pay Joseph R. Dillin for the copy of a certified charter of the Corporation of Smyrna three dollars being the price thereof.

An ordinance was then passed to appoint a committee of the aldermen to select the place to build a calaboose, to adopt a plan of the building, and to give the job of said building to the lowest bidder and also to make a report on Saturday the 27th, instant. The board then adjourned until next meeting.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

March 8,  
1870.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met pursuant to adjournment and passed the following ordinance: Be it further ordained that any person or persons who may be convicted of peddling without having paid the privilege tax or any other person pursuing business for which a privilege tax has to be paid as a business within the corporate limits, such person or persons shall be fined not less than five nor more than twenty five for each and offense.

The committee on building a calaboose made a report that Mr. James Hight agreed to build said calaboose for one hundred and seventy five dollars, and furnish everything to complete the building and do it up in workman like style.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

March 12,  
1870.

There being an election ordered for a justice of the peace for the Town of Smyrna by an Act of General Assembly of Tennessee. In accordance with said Act the election was held in the Town of Smyrna on March 10, 1870 and the following is a true copy of the certificate of the judges of said election. We the undersigned judges and clerks of the election this day held in the Town of Smyrna, Rutherford County, Tennessee for the purpose of electing a justice of the peace for said town as per special act of the General Assembly of Tennessee for the election of said justice of the peace do certify that Joseph Engles received the highest number of votes cast in this election March 10, 1870. Clerks: J. W. Dillin, Ger. P. Thayer. Judges: J. P. H. Lenoir, O. M. Davis.

Attest

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

March 16,  
1870.

There being no quorum the meeting adjourned to the next regular meeting.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

April 6,  
1870.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met pursuant to adjournment. Motions made and adopted to receive the calaboose and to settle with Mr. Hight the builder. The town constable reported that he collected taxes to the amount of seventy four dollars and eighty cents, and also ten dollars subscription money. Motion was then made and adopted to pay Mr. Hight any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated and the treasurer to pay the same. Motion was then made and adopted to pay the town constable five percent of all the collections of taxes and subscriptions. The board then proceeded to the election of an additional policeman. The election resulted in the election of John Lenoir. Motion was then made and adopted to relieve the building committee and they were discharged from their duty.

Motion was then made to adjourn until next regular meeting. It was adopted.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

May 17,  
1870.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met pursuant to adjournment. There being no business of any nature the board adjourned until the next regular meeting.

June 20,  
1870.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Jackson and Brewer having removed to Nashville, the board elected J. P. H. Lenoir policeman for the next twelve months. The board then adjourned until the next meeting.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

June 20, 1870. Mr. J. P. H. Lenoir was qualified as policeman to discharge his duty for the next twelve months or until his successor was qualified.

July 20, 1870. There being no business the mayor and aldermen adjourned till the next regular meeting.

August 20, 1870. There being no business the mayor and aldermen adjourned till the next regular meeting.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

September 20, 1870. There being no business the mayor and aldermen adjourned till the next regular meeting.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

October 20, 1870. The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met pursuant to adjournment and passed the following ordinance: that every prisoner guilty of violating any law of said corporation shall on refusing to secure or pay his fine be confined in the town calaboose not less than two or more than ten days.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

December 10, 1870.	Fines collected for the year 1870:	\$ 66.50
	Assets as per vouchers on treasury and cash and Hight(constable)	\$ <u>66.75</u>
	Balance due by recorder	
	Taxes collected and fines collected for 1870	\$ 91.00
	Expenses for calaboose, collecting taxes and book	\$185.10
	A copy of charter	\$ 3.00
		<u>\$188.10</u>

December 20, 1870. There being an election held for mayor and aldermen. Joseph Engles received the highest number of votes for mayor, R. H. Dudley, John L. Poynor, J. T. Gooch, L. B. White and J. T. Whitehead for aldermen and R. H. White, deputy sheriff issued a certificate to that effect, he being the officer appointed to hold said election.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

December 20, 1870. Mr. Albert Henderson, Justice of the Peace for Rutherford County, State of Tennessee then administered the oath of office to the mayor elect for the faithful discharge of his duty for the ensuing year.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

Joseph Engles, Justice qualified the aldermen.

December 20, 1870. The Board of Mayor and Aldermen organized and proceeded to the election of a constable and it resulted in the election of J. W. Hight; they then appointed two policemen. George Hight and John Hager and they also elected a treasurer, J. L. Poynor.

February 17, 1871. The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met pursuant to adjournment there being a quorum present. They proceeded to levy a tax of five dollars on all privileges and a poll tax of fifty cents

on each poll and tax on real estate of 1/3 of one percent for the year of 1871. No further business appearing the Board of Mayor and Aldermen adjourned till next meeting.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

April 25,  
1871.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met pursuant to adjournment. A quorum present and the mayor presiding there being a vacancy in the office of alderman and treasurer by the removal of John L. Poynor, Alderman and Treasurer to Nashville. The board proceeded to elect the alderman, O. M. Davis being nominated and was duly elected to fill the vacant term. The board then proceeded to fill the vacancy of treasurer by electing J. T. Whitehead for treasurer. Mr. J. T. Whitehead then gave bond for one hundred dollars for the forthcoming of the corporation fund that might come into his hands and also Mr. J. W. Hight gave bond for the same amount and same purpose. Joseph Engles, Justice of the Peace then for Rutherford County then swore O. M. Davis as alderman for the unexpired term of 1871 viz. J. L. Poynor resigned.

The board then passed the following ordinance by a full vote; that public worship in the Corporation of Smyrna shall close every night at ten o'clock the welfare of the town of citizens requiring the same. There being no further business the Board of Mayor and Aldermen adjourned till regular meeting.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

December 20,  
1871.

There being an election for mayor and aldermen said election resulted in the re-election of Joseph Engles, Mayor for the year 1872 and in the election as aldermen, R. H. Dudley, J. G. Gooch, O. M. Davis, J. T. Brewer and John Hager. The mayor was qualified by A. J. Henderson, a Justice of the Peace, for the faithful discharge of his duties. The aldermen were then sworn in for the faithful discharge of their duties. The board elect adjourned then without delay.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

January 15  
1872.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met pursuant to adjournment and transacted the following business, to wit, to levy a tax on livery stables, as of one dollar and fifty cents for the year 1872, also a tax on real estate of 1/8 of one percent for the year 1872, also a privilege tax of two dollars and 50 cents on liquor shops and merchants and peddlers and a poll tax of seventy five cents for the year 1872. The board then elected R. H. Dudley treasurer, he giving bond which was approved. J. W. Hight was then elected constable for the year of 1872 and tax collector, he also giving bond for the collection and paying over taxes which was approved. The board then appointed J. G. Gooch and Oscar Davis and R. H. Dudley a committee on streets. No further business appearing the board adjourned without delay.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

February 10,  
1872.

Henry C. Hight tendered his resignation as policeman and it was accepted.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

December 20,  
1872.

There being an election of mayor and aldermen for the next twelve months held by A. W. Page, C.R.C. and deputy sheriff on the 20th day of December 1872 and said election returns in this office by said officer.

The election resulted in the election of Joseph Engles, Mayor, R. H. Dudley, J. G. Gooch, John Hager, Dabny Carrollson as aldermen. The following is a true copy of the election returns and the undersigned judges and clerks do certify that this is a correct return of the election held today for the purpose herein setforth. J. T. Brewer, John W. Hager, W. B. Lowry, judges; S. E. Hager, O.S.C. Lowry, clerks.  
A. W. Page, Receiver

May 5,  
1873.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met pursuant to adjournment. John S. Ballentine and John Hager having moved away and thereby being a vacancy of two aldermen the board elected F. J. Sanders and S. Hager in their stead for the unexpired term of the ensuing year. Mr. J. W. Hight was elected town constable and sworn into office by the mayor.

The board then proceeded to levy a tax for privilege and polls for the ensuing year to wit; on livery stables one dollar and fifty cents per annum, real estate 1/8 of one percent; one hundred dollars for liquor shops; merchant and druggist, peddlers two and 50/100 dollars; poll tax seventy five cents. The board then elected R. H. Dudley treasurer for the ensuing year. No further business appearing the board adjourned until Saturday the 10th of May 1873.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

December 20,  
1873.

There being an election of mayor and aldermen for the next twelve months held by A. W. Page, Deputy Sheriff on the 20th day of December 1873 and said election returns returned into this office by said page duly signed by the judges and clerks who held said elections, to wit, Joseph Engles, Mayor; F. J. Sanders, J. W. Baker, J. W. Hager, J.R. Britt and S. E. Hager, Aldermen. We the undersigned judges and clerks and receiver do certify that the with in is a correct list of votes polled in Smyrna, Rutherford County for the purpose of electing a mayor and five aldermen to serve twelve months and the following is a correct return Signed, S. E. Hager, O. S. J. Lowry, Clerks; Judges; J. W. Hager, J. B. Moore, J. W. Hight. A true copy.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

December 22,  
1873.

Rutherford County Tennessee. The new Board of Mayor and Aldermen met at the office of Joseph Engles, Esq. and after being duly sworn according to law, transacted the following business. First, to levy a corporation tax of one dollar on each poll two dollars and fifty cents on merchants, druggist, saloons, livery stables, peddlers, theatrical excubations and one eighth of one percent on the hundred dollars on real estate. Second, the board then elected J. F. Sanders, Treasurer, J. W. Hight, Town Constable, Tune and Lenoir, Policemen for the year 1873 and 74. The board then adjourned until the first Wednesday in January 1874 for the year 1874.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

January 20,  
1874.

The board of mayor and aldermen met pursuant of adjournment and transacted the following business. First, that every livery stable shall have the right to haul in the corporation and that a dollar of their tax as a privilege shall be for the use of said wagon and that everybody who wants to haul in said corporation shall pay a tax of one dollar for such privilege and that the work on the streets shall be let out to the best bidder of the day.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

December 21,  
1874.

There being an election of mayor and aldermen for the next twelve months, held by A. W. Page, Constable for Rutherford County, for the corporation of Smyrna said election returns was returned into this office by said A. W. Page signed by the judges and clerks of said election and the following named persons received the highest number of votes to wit; J. W. Baker, Mayor and F. J. Sanders, J. G. Brewer, J. R. Britt, J. W. Hager, S. E. Hager, Aldermen. A. W. Page being deputized by the sheriff to pole said election. A. W. Page receiver, D. Tune, J. W. Hight, J. T. Brewer, Judges. J. W. Lenoir, O. S. C. Lowry, Clerks.

January 1,  
1875.

Be it remembered that on the first day of January 1875, J. W. Baker was duly sworn in as Mayor of the Corporation of Smyrna, January 1, 1875.

Joseph Engles, J.P., for the County of Rutherford. We the undersigned judges, clerks and receivers of an election held in Smyrna for the election of mayor and aldermen certify that the following is the results of said election: for mayor, J. W. Baker received the highest number of votes. F. J. Sanders, J. G. Brewer, J. R. Britt, J. W. Hager, S. E. Hager received the highest number of votes for aldermen.

Signed, A. W. Page, Receiver

Judges: L. D. Tune, J. W. Hight, J. G. Brewer

Clerks: J. W. Lenoir, O. S. C. Lowry

December 21,  
1874.

A true copy.

Joseph Engles, Mayor and Recorder

January 2,  
1875.

The new elected board met and were sworn in by Joseph Engles J. P., for the faithful discharge of their duty for the next twelve months.

Joseph Engles, Justice of the Peace for Rutherford County

The following ordinance was passed by the aldermen. Be it ordained by the board that if any person is convicted of racing horses in the streets of the Corporation of Smyrna shall be fined not less than one nor more than five dollars for each offense. Be it further ordained by the mayor and aldermen that if any person fails to pay their privilege tax, poll or real estate tax for the year 1875 by the first day of June, the mayor shall issue execution to the town constable who shall proceed to levy the same on property of the delinquent tax payer and sell the same to the highest and best bidder, for cash after giving ten days notice at two public places in



the said corporation. And after deducting all the taxes and expenses allowed by law, he shall pay the residue if any to the tax payer. The board then elected F. J. Sanders treasurer of the said corporation for the year 1875. He giving bond of one hundred dollars for the faithful disbursement of the corporation funds.

The board then elected J. W. Hight town constable for the next twelve months and allowed him ten percent for the collection of the privilege, poll and real estate tax he giving bond for one hundred dollars. The board elected L. H. Tune policeman for the year 1875.

The board appointed a committee to employ a force to work on the streets at the best term they can. The committee is: F. J. Sanders, S. E. Hager and J. R. Britt and pay for the work by drawing any money out of the treasurer not otherwise appropriated. The board then agreed to levy the same tax on privileges, polls and real estate as last year, except livery stables which shall be taxed two dollars, running vehicles included. No further business appearing the board adjourned until the first Thursday in February.

J. W. Baker, Mayor and Recorder

December 20, 1875. An election of mayor and alderman was held on the 20th day of December 1875 by A. W. Page, Deputy Sheriff of Rutherford County in the Town of Smyrna and said election resulted in electing J. P. H. Lenoir mayor; John Hager, F. J. Sanders, Sam E. Hager, J. R. Britt, and J. W. Baker aldermen.

J. W. Baker  
State of Tennessee, Rutherford County

December 28, 1875. J. P. H. Lenoir took the oath of office before Joseph Engles, Esq. a Justice of the Peace for said county to serve as mayor of the corporation of Smyrna for the next twelve months. I certify that J. P. H. Lenoir was sworn in as mayor of the corporation of Smyrna on the 23rd day of December 1875.

Joseph Engles, J.P. for Rutherford County

"NOTE: The preceding minutes to this point have all been in Joseph Engles hand writing except for the signature of Mayor J. W. Baker."

January 10, 1876. Mr. F. J. Sanders, S. E. Hager, John Britt, J. W. Hager and J. W. Baker, Aldermen elected for the year 1876 were sworn into office by Joseph Engles, Esq. a Justice of the Peace for the County of Rutherford. On the same night the Board of Mayor and Aldermen organized for the transaction of business. Present, J. P. H. Lenoir, Mayor F. J. Sanders, John Britt, J. W. Hager, and J. W. Baker, Aldermen. The first business in order was to elect a town constable for the year 1876. Mr. J. M. Hight being nominated was duly elected. Second, the board then levied a tax on all real estate of 1/8 of one percent on the hundred dollars. The livery stable tax two dollars, the merchants tax and all other privileges, two dollars and poll tax one dollar. Third, Mr. F. J. Sanders was elected treasurer and J. T. Brewer policeman.



Joseph Engles - first  
Mayor of Smyrna, Tennessee  
in 1869. Father of Dr.  
J. W. Engles.



Albert Wilkes Page  
Mayor of Smyrna, Tennessee  
when Charter was lost  
in 1881.

Born 1834  
Died 1918

The following ordinance was then passed by a full vote, that the mayor shall be empowered in case of necessity to deputize any discreet person of proper age, 21 years, to make an arrest. The Board of Mayor and Aldermen adjourned until the first Tuesday in February next and fixed that day in each month for their regular meeting.

J. P. H. Lenoir, Mayor and Recorder

December 23,  
1876.

This is to certify that the above is a correct number of votes polled at the election held by me in the Town of Smyrna on the above date and that J. T. Gooch received twelve votes for mayor for the year 1877. For aldermen the following persons received the highest vote polled; F. J. Sanders-13, J. R. Britt-12, J. W. Baker-13, S. E. Hager-12, J. W. Hager-13, Joseph Engles, Receiver. Clerks: S. E. Hager, W. B. Jarrett, Judges: J. W. Hight, F. J. Sanders, A. W. Page.

W. A. Mason a Justice of the Peace of Rutherford County, State of Tennessee on this day administered the oath of office to James T. Gooch and thus qualified said James T. Gooch as Mayor of the Corporation of the Town of Smyrna for the year 1877. At night the Board of Mayor and Aldermen met and the oath of office was administered by J. T. Gooch, J. P. to F. J. Sanders, J. W. Baker, S. E. Hager and J. W. Hager as aldermen. When they organized and proceeded to transact the following business.

The first business in order was to elect a town constable to serve for the year 1877. James W. Hight was elected without opposition for that position.

Second, the board next proceeded to select a policeman. John T. Brewer being nominated was duly elected to serve such for the next twelve months ensuing.

Third, the board then levied a tax of 1/8 of one percent on the hundred dollars on all real estate, and one dollar poll tax. The livery stable tax \$2.00. The merchant tax and all other privileges to be \$2.50, except liquor dealers. Those who sold by wholesale to pay a privilege tax of \$25.00 and retail liquor dealers to pay a tax of \$50.00. The two last meaning by annum, payable quarterly.

Fourth, F. J. Sanders was elected treasurer for the next twelve months ensuing.

The board then adjourned until the second Tuesday in January 1877 and fixed the first Tuesday night of each month succeeding as the time for holding their regular meetings.

J. T. Gooch, Mayor and Recorder

January 9,  
1877.

There being no quorum an adjournment was ordered until the regular meeting the first Tuesday night in February, next.

J. T. Gooch, Mayor and Recorder

Corporation Record for the year 1878.

April 6,  
1878.

At an election held at this place today the following persons were legally elected to wit: A. W. Page was elected mayor and F. J. Sanders, W. B. Jarrett, S. E. Hager, J. R. Britt, B. B. Gracy were elected aldermen to serve until the 20th day of December next or until their successors are qualified.

September 21,  
1878. Smyrna, Rutherford County, Tennessee

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met for the transaction of business. A. W. Page, Mayor in the chair and the regular order of business taken. The bond of the mayor and recorder was read and approved. On motion and seconded. The following was voted as the rate to taxation for corporation purposes for the present year, to wit. Privilege, merchant and peddlers-\$2.60 each. Livery stables-\$1.25. Druggist-\$1.25. Wagons-.50¢, Polls-\$1.00, Realty 1/8 of one percent.

W. B. Jarrett was elected treasurer. A street committee was appointed consisting of Aldermen Britt, Gracy, Hager, J. T. Brewer was elected and sworn in as policemen. No other business appearing the board adjourned to meet again on the 27th, September 1878.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

1879 Smyrna, Rutherford County, Tennessee

July 5,  
1879. (NOTE:"This election should have been held December 20, 1878.")

At an election held at this place today for the purpose of electing one mayor and five aldermen. The returns in my office show that A. W. Page was elected mayor and S. E. Hager, W. B. Jarrett, B. B. Gracy, J. R. Britt and J. W. Hager were elected aldermen to serve until December 20, 1880, or until their successors are qualified.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

July 21,  
1879.

Smyrna

At a meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Smyrna, the following proceedings were had, to wit; A. W. Page having been sworn in as Mayor and Recorder by J. S. Gooch, J. P., he then administered the oath of office to the aldermen elect, except J. W. Hager who was not present. The regular order of business was taken and on motion and seconded the following taxes were levied for the present year. To wit, on realty and personal property 1/8 of one percent. Polls-\$1.00, privilege merchants-\$2.00, livery stables-\$1.50. The following aldermen were appointed as a street committee: Gracy, S. E. Hager, and Britt. W. B. Jarrett was elected treasurer. By unanimous vote the rules and ordinances posed by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen on the 22nd day of December 1869 was adopted for the government of the corporation for the present year by unanimous vote. The first Tuesday night in each month was adopted for the time of the regular meeting of the board. No other business coming up, the board adjourned to meet as above.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

December 20,  
1879.

Smyrna, Rutherford County, Tennessee

At an election held at this place today the following persons were unanimously elected to the office. To wit: A. W. Page was elected mayor, W. B. Jarrett, S.E. Hager, J. R. Britt, J. F. Tucker and J. T. Brewer were elected aldermen to serve for the ensuing term and to these I have by virtue of my office issued certificates of election.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

January 3,  
1880.

Smyrna, Rutherford County

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met and the oath of office having been administered to A. W. Page by J. W. Hall, Esq. on the 30th of December. A. W. Page, J.P. then swore in the aldermen elect and the board organized by electing W. B. Jarrett treasurer. The board then adjourned to meet on the 6th of January 1880.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

January 6,  
1880.

Smyrna, Tennessee

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met pursuant to adjournment with A. W. Page in the chair, and all the aldermen present. The mayor presented his official bond which was accepted. (Alderman Brewer in the chair.) The ordinances and laws passed by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen on the 22nd of December 1869 was then adopted by this board for the government of the Town of Smyrna for the present year. By vote of the board the survey of the Town of Smyrna as made by J. J. Neely on the 3rd day of September 1879 be adopted as the bounds and metes of said town, and also that said survey and plot be spread upon the minutes of this board and become a part of the record of said town. (See Map-1878, page 8 ). J. W. Hight was elected and qualified as town constable for the present term. B. D. Hight and J. W. Lenoir were elected policemen for the present term. Aldermen Brewer, Britt, and Tucker were appointed a street committee by unanimous vote of the board. The following vote of taxes was ordered to be levied for the corporate purposes for the present year. To wit: on personal and real estate 1/5 of one percent, poll tax-\$1.00, merchants license-\$2.50, whiskey-\$2.50. peddlers-\$2.50, shows-\$2.50, stables-\$2.50, shooting galleries-\$2.50, wagons or drays-.50¢.

By unanimous vote of the board the 1st Tuesday night in every month was set for the regular meeting. Nothing further appearing the board adjourned to meet at the regular time.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

February 3,  
1880.

Smyrna

This being the time for a meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of Smyrna but owing to the inclemency of the weather no meeting occurred.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

March 2,  
1880.

Smyrna, Rutherford County, Tennessee

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met pursuant to adjournment with Mayor Page in the chair and all the aldermen present. A protest signed by the citizens of Smyrna objecting to the survey of the town by J. J. Neely was read and ordered spread on the minutes. Nothing further appearing the board adjourned for one month unless sooner convinced.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

April 6,  
1880.

Smyrna

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met at the usual hour with the Mayor A. W. Page presiding and Aldermen Jarrett, Brewer, Britt and Hager present. No business appearing for the good of the corporation, the board adjourned to meet on the next regular meeting unless sooner called together by the mayor.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

July 6,  
1880.

Smyrna

The board met at the usual time and place with Mayor Page in the chair and Aldermen Jarrett, Brewer, Britt and Hager present but nothing appearing for the benefit of the corporation, the board adjourned to meet again at the regular time.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

December 7  
1880.

Smyrna

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met at the regular time and place with Mayor Page in the chair and Aldermen Jarrett, Brewer, Britt, Hager and Tucker present. The street committee and the tax collector both made reports which were received. E. W. Jarrell was elected to fill out the unexpired term of Hight who had left the room. Jarrell was then brought in and qualified as policeman. No other business appearing for the good of the corporation, the board adjourned to meet again on the (no date).

December 20,  
1880.

At an annual election held in the Town of Smyrna in accordance with a writ of election issued by R. Ransom, Sheriff of Rutherford County on this the 20th day of December 1880 for the purpose of electing one mayor and five aldermen to serve for the ensuing term of twelve months. The certificates of the offices of said election show that A. W. Page was elected mayor and W. B. Jarrett, S. E. Hager, J. R. Britt, J. L. Brewer and J. F. Tucker were elected aldermen. And upon said returns the sheriff issued certificates of election to the officers elect, which certificates are now on file in this office, January 4, 1881.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

January 4,  
1881.

The Board of Mayor and Aldermen met at the usual time. Mayor Page called the board to order and administered the oath of office to all the aldermen elect. The oath of office having the same day

The business was taken up in regular order and J. W. Hight was elected town constable. W. B. Jarrett was elected treasurer. E. W. Jarrell and J. M. Hight was elected policeman. The treasurer was instructed to pay to the parties who had paid a corporation fine of ? dollars, the sum thus settled by them.

The following rate of taxes was voted and ordered levied for corporation purposes for the present year. Merchants license-\$2.50, whiskey-\$100.00, peddlers-\$2.50, shows-\$2.50, stables-\$2.50, shooting galleries-\$2.50, wagons, drays, carts, and other vehicles-.50¢, poll tax-\$1.00.

And upon all personal property(not exempt) and upon all realty 1/5 of one percent. Aldermen Britt, Brewer and Tucker were appointed street committee. The mayor was allowed 25¢ for each license issued. No other business appearing for the good of the corporation the board adjourned to meet again on the first Tuesday night in February next, unless sooner called together by the mayor.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

January 6,  
1881.

At a called meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen all the aldermen being present the mayor stated the object of the meeting was to take action on the whiskey license levied on the 4th inst. Whereupon on motion and seconded the board voted to recend its action in levying said tax on one hundred dollars for license to sell the same. This action of the board, the mayor vetoed stating his reasons for this action. Wherefore, upon a vote the same was passed over the veto and the mayor was by vote of the board directed to return to J. R. Britt the one hundred dollars collected by him for said license. No other business appearing the board adjourned to meet again on the first Tuesday night in February next unless sooner called by order of the mayor.

A. W. Page, Mayor and Recorder

Note.

This called meeting is evidence of conflict between the mayor and city officials.

Note.

Here ends the 1869-1881 records copied above from record book.

Albert W. Page was married to Sallie B. Hight February 4, 1874 by the Rev. Mr. Rosser at the Smyrna Methodist Church. This church was built in 1872. There was no Church of Christ until 1880.

Note by W. K.  
Hoover.

Mr. A. W. Page a highly religious person possibly was disappointed in his inability to control whiskey and the two saloons in Smyrna, eventually causing the charter of incorporation to be lost. Mr. Page and the Hight family, one of the Hight girls

being his wife, founded the Church of Christ on Division Street about this time.

The only evidence that I find about why the charter was lost or withdrawn is the following petition and a note in Mr. Page's diary.

1881.

From Tennessee House Journal 1881(Tennessee State Archives)  
By Mr. W. R. Jones, a petition from the citizens of Smyrna protesting against the repeal of the charter of said town.

Referred to the Committee on Incorporation.

To the Honorable Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee in session at the Capitol. We the undersigned boni fide citizens of the Town of Smyrna, Rutherford County would respectfully represent to your honorable body that upon information had by us that during your session there will be presented to you for your consideration a petition from a few of our fellow citizens praying you to repeal so much of the Acts of 1869 etc. As refers to the incorporation of our now thriving little Town to which petition we beg leave to enter our earnest protest and will endeavor to show by the following reasons why their prayer should not be heard. 1st. The petition is signed by two non-residents of the corporation the others are simply a respectable minority and with but few exceptions are newcomers failing to realize the maxim vena vidi visi(note-"I came, I saw, I conquered") they prepose to rub out and take a fresh start. 2. The petition does not show in its face the intentional objects for which it was made-i.e.(Note-"idest" that is). 1st, that is the wish of a few parties living some miles away that our new citizens may propetiate securely that these same citizens may have the consolations that they will thereby avoid the payment of privilege renews which all well regulated corporation as ours impose upon all, who do legitimate business within their jurisdiction. 3. It will be urged by the friends of said petition that aside from their prayer they will demand of you as a matter of duty and right that you repeal our charter upon constitutional grounds the numerical populations having been reduced below the figure required by law.

In answer to this charge we would respectfully show your honorable body that by the passage of wholesome laws and the execution of them the town has accomplished a wonderful change since it became an incorporated town. Our worst enemies will admit that when our charter was granted our village was in a sad condition but as soon as the corporate authority could be organized a happy change was perceptible. We are out of debt and improvements are going forward as fast as the nature of the case will admit.

Respectfully submitted



L. H. Tune	J. T. Brewer	Abe Drennon
J. R. Britt	E. W. Jarrell	Louis Parks
S. E. Hager	W. B. Jarratt	Raukin Ralston
J. S. Farris	D. J. Jarratt	Peter Allen
G. W. Gwyn	John Hibett	Jim Bowen
J. W. Hager	George Sikes	Henderson Weakley
Entrum Jimerson	Sawney Nelson	

This petition is hand written. The signatures are by the same hand writing and same pen.

I suspect that Joseph Engles wrote this in conjunction with W. R. Britt, the saloon keeper, perhaps others not wanting to pay privilege taxes. The above minutes show that A. W. Page, Mayor wanted to tax Mr. Britt one hundred dollars per year for his saloon.

I did not find a petition by other citizens to do away with the charter. However, I did find a mention of this in Mr. A. W. Page's diary to-witt.

January 25, 1881. "I went to Nashville on the 9:00 a.m. and came back on the 4:00 p.m. train. While in N. I was at the Capitol and before a legislative committee and testified before them why we wanted to abolish the corporation of Smyrna and am almost certain it will be done."

Same Day. "I am still very much dissatisfied with our present situation and will change it the first opportunity."

Note by W. K. Hoover. Mr. Page moved to Texas soon after this. The reconstruction period after the Civil War created many social and economic problems.

Page Diary. The following quotations from Mr. A. W. Page's diary will enhance your knowledge of Smyrna history.

Wednesday, May 15, 1878. "At night I went up to Jarretts Store(meeting place) called the aldermen elect together and administered the oath of office to them. After electing J. W. Hight town constable and J. T. Brewer and J. W. Lenoir policemen we adjourned,(cool and clear)".

September 21, 1878. (A Saturday) "Was at a meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen at night, at which quite a number of bills were passed for the benefit of the corporation. Got home at nine thirty o'clock. Cloudy, then clear and pleasant."

Friday, February 21, 1879. "I think that A. Davis has traded Jo. Engles a track of land for his Smyrna property. I hope he has and that Engles will move out of Smyrna at once." (Perhaps where the minute book was found.)

"G. S. Ridley was down and he and I went out and looked at the former mud hole and corporate lines and etc." (in streets).

Sunday,  
February 23,  
1879.

"Rankin Rolston's horse attempted to cross Harts Branch on the R.R. bridge and it was with great difficulty that we got him out and off the bridge." (Note-bridge has open space between cross ties.)

Monday,  
February 24,  
1879.

"I had somewhat of an argument with Engles and Mason in regard to the corporation lines of Smyrna. Loaned Dan Tune 20¢."

Thursday,  
March 13,  
1879.

"I was with the county surveyor W. R. Jones and some others while they run off the line between J. R. Dillon and Smyrna." (Note-Dillon lived at "Idler's Retreat" better known today as the Old Tucker house. Here is W. R. Jones who is mentioned on face of petition, page 36.)

Monday,  
April 7,  
1879.

"While in Murfreesboro I submitted the case of the State vs. the Corporation of Smyrna. I also paid L.S. Tucker \$1.20 his witness fee in the corporation case."

Saturday,  
July 5,  
1879.

"Was about Smyrna all day. There was an election here for mayor and aldermen. I was elected mayor and S. D. Hager, W. B. Jarrett, B. B. Gracy, J. R. Britt, and J. W. Hager was elected aldermen. J. M. Hight and I went to the creek and took a bath in the evening. We got caught in a shower of rain while gone."

Monday,  
July 21,  
1879.

"There was a meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of Smyrna. I got a statement from Capt. Fowler, find that the cost in the case of the State vs. the Corporation is \$25.34."

Monday,  
August 4,  
1879.

"In company with J. M. Hight and J. W. Hager I went to Murfreesboro in a spring wagon and was up there nearly all day. The Criminal Court was in session and I went up to prosecute R. H. White for buying witness fees, he having reported the corporation authorities of Smyrna for having a mud hole in the road in December last. I do this to get even with him. Got home at 6 o'clock."

Monday,  
September 1,  
1879.

"I also paid L. B. Fowler \$10.00 on our corporation fine... Jarrett and Britt each paid me \$4.70 on the corporation fine."

Thursday,  
August 28,  
1879.

"I was about Smyrna all day. I held the election for constable which resulted in 52 votes. J. H. Engles, and 31 votes for J. W. Lenoir. At LaVergne Engles received 26 and Lenoir 41, making the majority, 6 votes, a close race. I hope that he will make a good officer which he will not do if he is influenced by his father." Etc.

Monday,  
March 15,  
1880.

"I worked for two or three hours on the coporation minutes book."

Tuesday,  
August 3,  
1880.

"I went to Murfreesboro in my buggy and worked S. E. Hager's horse. While up there I paid J. E. Arnold \$5.00 and S. E. Hager paid him \$6.30 that being the balance on the corporation mud hole fine."

Tuesday,  
December 14,  
1880.

"I was busy all day at work on the corporation. My wagon and team and two hands were also busy hauling for the corporation." (Note-perhaps hauling rock for streets.) "At night I was at a meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Dock Brown and Hense Weakley worked for me."

Friday,  
January 14,  
1881.

"Was about Smyrna all day-transacted no official business but wrote on my corporation book for about two hours. The weather is very bad-rain last night then snow and there is about two or three inches on the ground."

Saturday,  
March 5,  
1881.

"There was several drunken men here today but no fighting. We will soon get rid of whiskey here as the charter of this town has been repealed and a school house chartered." (Note-this school was the center section of the Webster house still standing across the street from Church of Christ.)

Monday,  
March 28,  
1881.

"I was deputized to collect the unpaid taxes."

Wednesday,  
April 13,  
1881.

"Before leaving Smyrna this morning, the calaboose was sold and the treasurer of the Town of Smyrna, W. B. Jarrett was instructed to pay the proceeds out on the fine and cost in the case of the State vs. Corporation of Smyrna." (Note-by W. K. Hoover. To this day, to the best of my knowledge this log calaboose is still contained in the Will Ross house at the corner of First Street, on 1855 map, lot number 26, page 2.)

Monday,  
May 16,  
1881.

"I also collected \$7.00 due me by the Corporation of Smyrna, amount paid to criminal court in the mud hole case." A note by W. K. Hoover. Look on page 9-1878 map. See lake near depot. This lake originally extended under the buildings on the west side of Front Street. When Smyrna excavated along this street to install water mains the ditching equipment was stopped about three or four feet deep by railroad cross ties, placed solid together to hold up the roadway. They had to be chopped into to install the water pipes in 1936.

I have seen boys fishing from a crosstie raft in summer and party's skating on ice in the winter. This lake was drained and filled with cinders by the railroad about 1920.

Thursday,  
June 9,  
1881.

"I am making arrangements to leave for Texas within the next two weeks but I find it a difficult matter to collect any money due me now."

June 13,15,  
16,17

He writes of his preparations to leave for Texas. "While in Nashville on the 18th, I bought our railroad tickets to Dallas, Texas. Paid \$42.65 for two and one half tickets." (End of diary quotations.)

Mr. Page's diary continues on for many years but this ends his connections with the office of Mayor of Smyrna. He came back to Smyrna after several years in Palerm, Texas. He later moved to Lebanon, Tennessee where he worked and died.

Mr. Page's diary spans many years before and after he came to Smyrna.

There are many details of history, name of people and happenings in and around Smyrna, noted in this important diary. A photo-copy of Mr. Page's years in Smyrna from his diary is presently in Thurman Francis, Jr. High School Library along with Walter K. Hoover's historical files and is available for research there. (Not available to check out.) The complete original diary is at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee. This was taken from page family records, by Ellen Swink.

A. W. Page was a very devout Christian attending Sunday School each Sunday and Church if there was a service in the community. Around 1870 Page, Bill Dunnaway, Bill Gooch, Levi White and Miss Cora Holloway went to West Tennessee to hear Alexander Campbell preach. An invitation was extended Campbell to come to Smyrna and preach at a meeting. Campbell accepted and the meeting was held at the Page home. Page led the singing for this meeting which he followed by becoming song leader. With a new congregation and no meeting house they met in the Page home. Ann Eliza Page furnished the unleavened bread for the weekly observance of the Lord's Super until her death.

In 1872 he ventured into a new field...politics. Was elected magistrate for his district. On April 1, 1878 was appointed a delegate to the convention in Nashville to nominate Supreme Court Judges. Was also elected tax accessor for his district.

On the 6th of April, 1878 was elected Mayor of Smyrna without opposition. This position he held until the charter was rendered in 1881. Page didn't approve of drinking and his actions led to the discontent which caused the charter to be rendered.



Early Store - First Street at Tank Street, 1855 map, lot 23. Across Tank Street is blacksmith and buggy shop.  
Note - unpaved street.

Note by W. K. Hoover.

It is now only sixteen years since the cessation, of the turmoil, of the Civil War, which happened on and through this vicinity. The despised federal domination and the reconstruction period was just beginning to relax. Money, business, livestock, labor (slaves) and the old southern plantation life style had gone. Federal taxes were a burden. These things had their effect on the loss of the Charter.

*The pleasure of your company is respectfully solicited at a Picnic to be given in Buchanan's Grove, 7 miles west of Murfreesboro, near the terminus of the Wilkinson Cross Roads Pike, on Thursday, August 10, 1876.*

#### COMMITTEE OF INVITATION.

DR. J. J. RUCKER,  
E. HENDERSON,  
J. T. PATTON,  
W. H. WASHINGTON,  
B. W. HICKS,

A. B. HARDING,  
C. H. SANDERS,  
J. M. BUTLER,  
T. E. SMITH,  
P. N. OVERALL,

J. B. HICKS,  
R. H. SMITH,  
L. C. EDWARDS,  
JNO. BEESLEY,  
J. L. MCGREGOR,

D. ANDERSON,  
JNO. KING,  
W. A. VAWTER,  
D. J. JARRATT,  
H. N. HICES.

#### MANAGERS.

J. W. SMITH,  
HENRY GREGORY,  
H. H. HICKS,  
SAM. BUCHANAN,

WM. BEESLEY,  
R. R. HALL,  
J. B. BATEY,  
G. W. HOWSE,

A. W. BLACKMAN,  
J. F. JENKINS,  
J. S. HICKS,  
J. J. SMITH,  
C. H. KING.

J. E. MANSON, JR.,  
A. M. EDWARDS,  
D. BEESLEY,  
W. M. SMITH,

#### LADY MANAGERS.

MRS. V. A. VAWTER,  
" J. W. SMITH,  
" J. S. HICKS,  
" L. J. SMITH,  
" A. W. BLACKMAN,

MRS. W. M. SMITH,  
" H. H. HICKS,  
" D. BEESLEY,  
" J. F. JENKINS,  
" C. H. KING,  
MRS. J. W. ROSS.

MRS. S. F. BUCHANAN,  
" J. E. MANSON, JR.,  
" R. R. HALL,  
" H. GREGORY,  
" WM. BEESLEY,

#### FLOOR MANAGERS.

H. H. DAVIS,

T. O. BUTLER,

E. F. HAYNES

#### MUSIC MANAGERS.

BEN. BATEY,

J. L. SMITH,

W. J. SMITH.

**MUSIC BY JORDAN MCGOWAN'S BAND.**

A social affair. (See 1878 County map.)

Recd of Dr J Jarratt one  
note on Ascar Rep and J.W.  
Rep for one hundred and fifty  
dollar credit of seventy dollars  
which note I promise to  
collect or return as the Law directs  
March 2nd 1874 A W Page C.R.C.

All  
Smyrna  
people  
of this  
period.

1878 Luchet Davis Dec

In agreement with J. A. Dillin

To Fornadaes services to Grey mare 10.00  
 interest 1.50  
 J. A. Dillin 1.50

State of Tennessee. Personally appeared before  
 Rutherford County, me J. A. Dillin and  
 made Oath that the above account is just  
 & true after all credits given and remains  
 unpaid.  
 J. A. Dillin

Trans to one subscribed before me the  
 12th day of June 1871

John A. Dillin

Stud service for grey mare with interest and Justice Peace fee.  
 Collected (on back) in 1874.

Recd of J L Davis Eleven and 1/2 Dollars  
 in full of Cost & Coms in case of Ordway  
 Gordon & McGuire and H Davis - both on  
 the receipt of J H McLaughlin Esqr  
 this 2nd Nov 1877  
 J A Dillin C.R.C.

(More foot prints)

Presbyterian Church

Masonic Lodge

Five Stores and One Hotel

R. H. Dudley-Postmaster

J. C. Brothers-Justice of the Peace

James Hibbett-Constable

Green Sanders-Justice of the Peace

C. Benning-Boot and Shoe Maker

W. H. Burkett-Dealer in Wines and Liquors

Thomas Cook-Brick Mason

C. R. and I. A. Dillin-General Merchandise

S. A. Downer-Butcher and Tailor

R. H. Dudley-Dry Goods, General Merchandise

Elliot and Rolston-Carpenter, Sashes, Doors, Lumber

Thomas Fox-Taylor

P. F. Hager-Blacksmith

Hager and Burkett-Livery Stable

G. B. Harris-Depot Agent

A. G. Henderson-Real Estate Agent

James Hight-Carpenter, Stone Dealer

W. G. Howell-Stoves, Tin, Ironware

R. P. Johnson-Boot and Shoe Maker

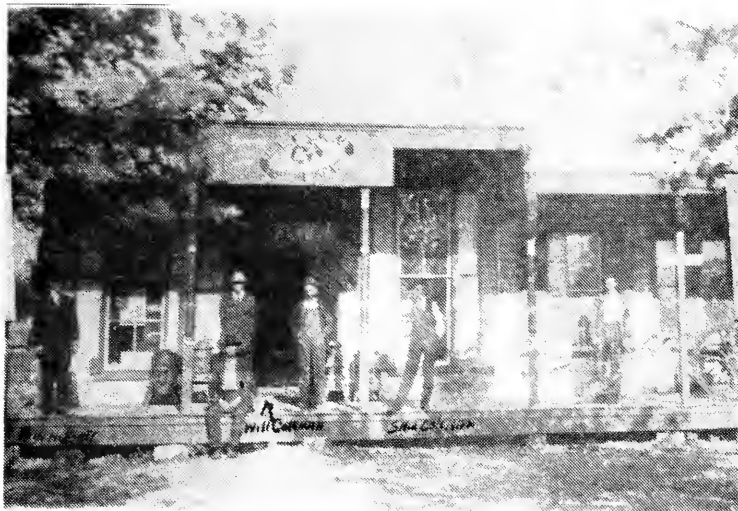
J. H. Simmons-Grocer

Benjamin Tompkins-Pump Maker

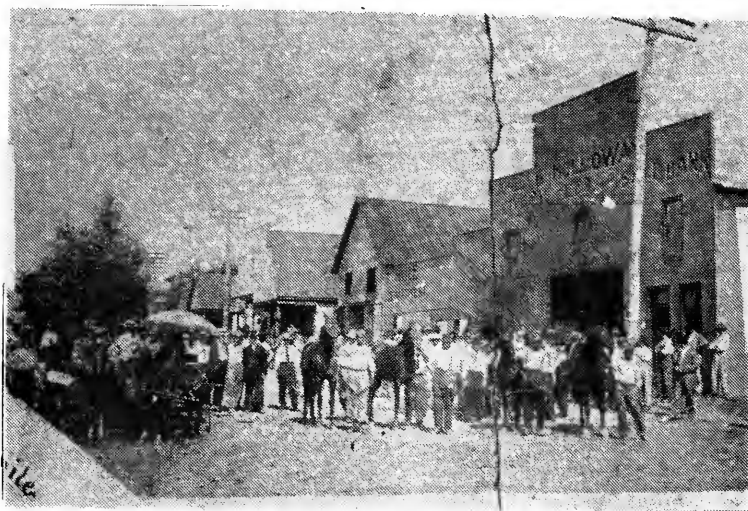
Silas Tucker-General Merchandise

John's Saloon(1870)





Early Dillon Store - Hibbett Store at time of this picture. Today's 108 Lowry Street - Regal Furniture, Lot 20, 1855 map.



Looking north on today's Lowry Street - First Street at Jefferson Street on 1855 map, Smyrna, Tennessee, Lot 21.

*Lancaster Tenn April the 4<sup>th</sup> 1843*

*For I. L. Davis Dr to James S. Cannon*  
1841

*No. 25 Rent for one Clover field*

*Grass lot. -*

*\$ 30 00*

*Interest -*

*\$ 2 40*

*State of Tennessee } Personal  
Randolph County } appeared before  
me Joseph Engles  
acting Justice of the Peace for  
said County James Cannon and made  
Oath in due form of law that the above  
account is just & true to the best of  
his knowledge & belief after all  
Credits given James S. Cannon*

*Sworn to & subscribed before me  
on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of April 1843*

*Joseph Engles J. P.  
for said County*

James S. Cannon collected rent from I. L. Davis, sworn to  
before Joseph Engles Justice Peace. (On back) collected by  
A. W. Page April 10, 1873.

Presbyterian Church

Methodist Church

White and Colored Free Schools

J. F. Sanders-Postmaster

H. B. Baker-General Store

J. R. Britt-Hotel Proprietor

Dr. B. B. Gracey-Physician

L. B. White-Depot Agent

S. P. Black-Miller

Rev. J. B. Chapman-Presbyterian

T. J. Sanders-Genral Store

Rev. G. W. Winn-Methodist

Mr Locket Davis  
 In ac with Dudley & Ross

1871	To Balance 1868	10 47	
Apr 16 "	Interest on ac 68 to date	1 85	12 32
"	ac 1869	2 00	
Nov 16 "	Interest on ac 69 to date	22	2 22
			<u>\$14 54</u>
			25

J. S. L. C.  
 State of Tennessee, Personalty  
 Rutherford County, appeared before  
 me Joseph Engles  
 an acting Justice of the Peace for  
 said County. Justice Dingle of the  
 Town of Dudley's Ross are made  
 oath that the above account is  
 just & true to the best of his  
 knowledge & belief of all  
 credits given. W. H. L. C. M.

Subscribed & before me on  
 the 16<sup>th</sup> day of November 1891  
 Joseph Engles J. P.  
 for said County

L. Davis's estate owed this account to Dudley and Ross Store,  
 since 1868. Mr. Dudley affirmed before Joseph Engles, Justice  
 Peace that the bill was due and correct. Paid by administrator  
 February 10, 1872. (Receipt on back.)



Early Railroad workers at Smyrna, Tennessee. Notice small track rail, old handcar.



Loading logs at Smyrna, Tennessee with mule power and boom pole. Notice small railroad car, depot.

## SMYRNA BUSINESS DIRECTORY 1880-POPULATION 250

W. B. Jarrett-Postmaster  
S. P. Black-Physician and Miller  
J. R. Britt-Saloon  
G. W. Crossthwaits-Physician  
J. W. Davis-Physician  
B. B. Gracey-Physician  
W. L. Davis-Mill  
G. W. Gwynn-General Store  
W. E. Hager-General Store  
William Hibbitt-Blacksmith  
W. B. Jarrett-General Store  
A. W. Page-Magistrate and Livery Stable  
T. J. Read-Blacksmith  
G. W. Tune-General Store  
H. J. Warmouth-Physician

(Note the decrease in population)

Time and the elements have erased all trace of the physical footprints made by these many citizens of yesterday. Perhaps some of these prints remain under the pavements that preserve them. The citizens of Smyrna today do not make footprints in the mud and dust, they move about in gas guzzlers on paved streets while the concrete farmers use pick-up trucks.

Life becomes more complex with each generation and more people to generate. Economics and science increasingly project us into a diminishing world and into the castness of space, beyond this small sphere.

As you travel across the parade grounds of your life, you will inevitably leave prints and impressions that others will study and follow. By what still water will you lead them to their tomorrows? What are your hopes and aspirations for your siblings?

End.

1. Tennessee State Archives
2. 1869-1881 Smyrna Minute Book
3. A. W. Page Diary
4. History of Smyrna, W. K. Hoover
5. Page Family Records
6. Luckett Davis Family Papers

Note to reader: For further research or information on early Smyrna, Tennessee examine:

1. History of The Town of Smyrna
2. Hardeman's Mill
3. Hart's Spring on Taylor's Trace

By: Walter K. Hoover

## VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER

by - Gene H. Sloan



"I recall being in the circulation office of the Nashville Banner in Murfreesboro, located in the rear of a restaurant on the corner of Maple and College Streets across from the Haynes Hotel (present location of J. C. Penney), when the factory whistles began to blow," writes Mark Womack. Womack is an executive of the N.C. and St. L. Railroad. He was describing the excitement that occurred when the official announcement came that a hospital for veterans would be erected five miles north of Murfreesboro on the Lebanon Road.



Womack remarks on the ironic paradox that tragedy and pathos of World War I would result in such local jubilation. "But it was a shot in the arm of our people as they struggled to escape the sluggish recovery from The Great Depression," he concludes.

Carefully guarded negotiations between government agents and the Batey, Carnahan, McCrary, Posey, Smith and Sullivan families in 1936-37 had resulted in the government acquiring 451 fertile acres situated between the Lebanon Pike and Stones River. Those families had, over the years, acquired fee in lands that the James Rucker family had secured from General Isaac Shelby, hero of King's Mountain. It was an historical site. "In 1804, the first session of the Rutherford County Court met, according to the Legislative Act, at the Thomas Rucker home, near where the Veterans Hospital now stands," states Sims History of Rutherford County, p. 24. The James Rucker grave is located on the present Medical Center grounds. Late in 1862, the Cavalry Command of 26-year old General Joseph Wheeler used these acres for a rendezvous prior to the two-day sweep around the Federal Army with destruction of Union wagon trains at LaVergne.

Construction of the original fifteen buildings of Georgian architectural design began in 1938. The facade of the Administration Building is an exact reproduction of the Hermitage, home of Andrew Jackson.

The Medical Center opened January 1, 1940, with a bed capacity of 600, which was gradually increased to a peak of 1510 in August 1968. The Veterans Administration Regional Office opened January 1, 1940, and remained with the Medical Center until it was moved to Nashville on January 1, 1946.

Mark Womack was a youthful employee of the N. C. & St. L. Railway in 1940. His record reveals that the special train bearing the first patients from a Johnson City facility arrived by special train. He states, "The

train came from the south from Chattanooga where it had arrived over the Southern Railway. J. W. Tucker, Assistant Superintendent of the N. C. & St. L. Special Number 7 accompanied the train as it arrived from the South. I remember the locomotive pulling the train was a 4-82-2, known to railroaders as 'The Mountain Type.' Some of the patients being transferred from the passenger cars were litter borne."

Since that January 1940 opening date, an outpatient clinic was started in 1968. This clinic currently averages about 26,400 visits each year. The average number of hospital patients admitted yearly from the past few years has been around 2,100. Many additional buildings and services have been added over these four decades. The hospital at present has 315 psychiatric, 235 intermediate and 48 nursing home care beds.

The staff, of approximately 1020, comprises a complete team of physicians, dentists, nurses, with a full range of auxiliaries of psychologists, physical therapists, dietitians, pharmacists, occupational therapists, medical laboratory technicians, radiology technicians, ward and administrative personnel. The staff is augmented by trainees, consultants, and some 300 volunteer workers from civic clubs, religious and fraternal societies of the area. The Murfreesboro Veterans Administration Medical Center has an annual payroll of above \$21,000,000.

The hospital employs the most modern equipment and methods of diagnosis and treatment of patients. Included in these facilities is electroencephalograph, drug therapy and psychotherapy. In addition, the hospital conducts specialized medical programs. Among these are speech pathology, intensive care, respiratory care, nuclear medicine and alcohol rehabilitation. There is also a Pulmonary Function Laboratory, Mental Hygiene Clinic and a 38-bed long term stroke rehabilitation unit.

Sam Jared, Jr., was administrator and medical center director for the hospital from December 12, 1939 until August 31, 1962. During this long tenure additional buildings were constructed and an unusually fine rapport was established with the community. He was succeeded by Dr. Alexander Harvey who served from September 30, 1962 until January 6, 1968. Dr. John T. Mason became director on January 7, 1968 and was retired in October 1978. Robert S. Pepiot has served since October 15, 1978.

A canteen and a credit union are available to employees. Employee Association members have access to a swimming pool and golf course when they are not in use by patients. They also have access to the lake twice each year.

Joyce M. Barrett finished 30 years as a nurse at the hospital on December 31, 1981. On September 2, 1982 Juanelle G. Neely will receive 30 years of service recognition. Alvina P. Primm and Louise M. Moss each have 25 years of work with the nursing service. Clifton Frazier will complete his 25th year in October 1982, and Mollie Young and Patricia Jernigan have each completed two decades of service.

Dr. Richard L. Harris was the first chief medical officer when the hospital opened in 1940. Only four medical doctors now on the staff have been there ten years or more. They are Dr. James T. Allen, Dr. Booker T. Crombie, Dr. Horace E. Lucarno and Dr. James W. Tenpenny. Dr. Walter P. Pegram has been on the dental staff since November 2, 1964.

Many Rutherford County organizations work with the patients in the annual Halloween carnival, on the bowling lanes, in horse shows, softball games, fishing in the lake, and other recreational and social activities. There are regular religious services in which local groups participate, aided by the hospital chaplains.

Volunteers in 17 departments are considered the same as employees. The only difference is that they do not receive any compensation for their work and cannot replace a paid employee. They simply enhance and supplement patient care. Volunteer needs are constantly changing and include many patient contact assignments as well as office assistance assignments.

Listed as recipients of certificates during 1981 for cooperation in volunteer activities were American Legion and Auxiliary, American Red Cross, Elks Club, Daughters of the American Revolution, Disabled American Veterans and Auxiliary, General Federation of Women's Clubs, Military Order of the Cootie and Auxiliary, U. S. Catholic Conference, Salvation Army, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary, Order of Eastern Star, American Federation of Musicians, Business and Professional Women, Middle Tennessee State University, Daughters of the Confederacy, Lions Club, Moose Club and Auxiliary, Aide Society, East Main Street Church of Christ, Rutherford County Home Demonstration Clubs, Lock's Memorial United Methodist Church, Kiwanis Club, Murfreesboro Women's Bowling Association, Newcomers Club, New Hope Church of Christ, North Boulevard Church of Christ, Trinity United Methodist Church, Smyrna Home Demonstration Club, Oakland High School and the Al Menah Temple Shriners.

On January 1, 1982 there were 52 volunteer workers with more than 10 years contribution. Among these were Annie Fulton with 36 years, Cora King with 35 years, Dorothy Conditt with 33 years, Catherine Alspach with 31 years, Anita Heflin with 31 years and Benidee White with 30 years. Volunteer workers with more than 20 years creditable service include Estelle Beggs, Annie Black, Jack Gandy, Mrs. Mahlon Garber, Margaret Hayes, May Hendris, Florence Hunter, Lillian Johnson, Bertrum Layne, Patsy Layne, Hattie McKinney, Ethel Smith and Virginia Willeford.

The Rutherford County Historical Society acknowledges with deep appreciation the research of Spencer Dixon, Chief of Voluntary Service, in compiling much of the information contained in this article.

# THE MANSON FAMILY

by - Rosalind Manson James

For the benefit of posterity I am putting down in writing what I have heard; what I have read; what I have learned from research in various areas; what I know from my years of living; and possibly what I have imagined about my father's family. - - - The Mansons. There is much information here and some mis-information, no doubt, and there are many gaps to be filled in so I leave it to future generations to complete. Try it. It's fun after you get started!

Our first immigrant ancestor to this country by the name of Manson came from England into St. Charles Parish, York County, Virginia about 1680. He was married twice - - first to Miss Somarin by whom he had a child Otis (born Nov. 1, 1690 and died Dec. 9, 1690). He later married Elizabeth (name unknown) by whom he had eight children, five sons and three daughters;

1. Peter, Jr. (born Aug. 25, 1697)
2. Anne (born June 4, 1699)
3. Elizabeth (born April 3, 1710 - married Monroe or Merriwether Shelton-Gillivan, no issue )
4. John (born Feb. 14, 1702 - married Martha Lewis, a widow, moved to Dinwiddie County, Va about 1730)
5. James (born Jan. 13, 1704)
6. Frances (born July 28, 1707 - died Dec. 25, 1707)
7. Nathaniel (born April 10, 1710)
8. Walter (born Dec. 8, 1713)

Peter Manson was rather prominent and owned property in Virginia from the time of his arrival in America, but this documentation I do not have. My information has come from Mr. Lawrence Gardiner, 1832 Cowden Avenue, Memphis, Tenn. who is related to us through the Manson-Hardaway line and who has done quite a bit of research on this line. He is writing a book

on the Hardaways and is including a chapter on the Mansons. The two families intermarried in Dinwiddie and Brunswick County, Virginia where they had moved after the Revolutionary War.

John Manson married Mrs. Martha Lewis

Issue: Captain Peter Manson, born Dec. 24, 1733-Bristol Parish Registry, died 1793, Dinwiddie Co. - (Will registered)  
Married twice Susanna Hardaway - born Sept. 27, 1740  
Dinwiddie Co. Va. and Agnes Hardaway-born March 30,  
1749, Dinwiddie Co, Va. (Bible)

Captain Peter Manson was a large landowner and slave holder in Dinwiddie Co. Va. and was prominent in many ways in the county.

Issue:

1. Major Thomas Manson, born 1757 Dinwiddie Co. married Anne Pegram, born July 4, 1762. He died 1806 in Brunswick Co., Va. He was Major in the Revolutionary War. Was given land in Brunswick Co. by father and was prominent.
2. Mary Manson, married Major Baker Pegrow
3. John Manson married Elizabeth Rogers Jan 25, 1790 in Brunswick Co.
4. Martha Manson married John Alfriend
5. Peter Manson Jr. married Miss Epps
6. Captain Hardaway Manson married Joanna Parker
7. Nathaniel Manson - never married
8. James Manson - never married
9. Agnes Thweatt Manson married Dr. Peter Manson Hardaway
10. Elizabeth Manson - unknown

Major Thomas Manson and Anne Pegram

- Issue: Mary Baker Manson, born 1783 and Edward Jones Tarpley Aug 4, 1800, Brunswick
2. Susanna Hardaway Manson born 1785, married Benjamin Ingram Dec. 20, 1802, first and (2) Abraham Bedford Nov. 1804 Brunswick bond
  3. Edward Manson born 1784, died 1833, Brunswick - - married Nancy Walker Maclin-born July 11, 1797 (Bible)
  4. Martha Pegram Manson born Aug 18, 1791, died April 29, 1827, married Thomas Buford Dec. 22, 1808. He was born in 1786, died 1820
  5. Agnes Thweatt Manson born Dec. 9, 1792, married Col. Isham Pratter on Dec. 19, 1816 in Brunswick Co. He was born Jan. 1, 1792 and died Oct 30, 1856 in Brunswick Co
  6. Thomas James Manson born 1795, married Susan James Maclin May 18, 1826 (Bible). She was born Oct. 17, 1806. (Bible)

Issue: Joseph Richard Manson  
 Caroline Manson married Peter Cogbill  
 Susan Manson married Robert Borden

Edward Manson born 1787 Brunswick Co., married Dec. 11, 1815-  
 died 1820 in Brunswick, married Nancy Walker Maclin-born  
 July 1, 1797 (Bible) died Mar. 7, 1880. Ruth Co Tenn

Issue:

1. Lucy F. Manson born 1816, married Benjamin S. Orgain  
 on Nov. 24, 1834 in Brunswick Co.
2. Martha J. Manson born 1818, married Henry N. Mason (1)  
 Nov. 24, 1834, Brunswick; married John H. Neal (2)  
 Aug. 30, 1837, Williamson Co., Tenn.
3. Susan Manson born 1821 - unmarried
4. James Edward Manson, M. D., born June 30, 1824, Brunswick Co., Va., died Jan 6, 1888 in Rutherford County, Tenn. married Anne Eliza Crockett June 30, 1844. She was born Jan . 6, 1825, Rutherford Co, died Mar 6, 1880 in Rutherford Co., Tenn.
5. Joseph J. Manson born 1826, married Martha Anne White
6. Agnes Manson married James Owen

Edward Manson died in Brunswick Co. where he spent his entire life, but his wife Nancy Maclin came to Tenn. with her two married daughters-Martha and Lucy, and her two younger sons-James Edward and Joseph. She purchased land at Nolensville, Williamson Co., Tenn. In deed book "P", page 221, we saw registered where Nancy Manson bought 128 acres for \$900.00 on Mill Creek. This is dated Nov. 19, 1838. Also, in 1842 she bought slaves. She also sold four acres. Witnesses to the first transaction were J. E. Manson, Benjamin L. Organ, (?), Prince, James Shownum. First deed Book "Q", page 576, shows that on May 4, 1842 she bought 3 Negro slaves-Ned, aged two years, Mary aged three, and Louisa, aged 25, and paid \$100.00 for them.

Edward Manson's Will of the Probate records of Brunswick Co., Va. shows the inventory on Edward Manson, dec, recorded Feb. 1833. He had a large estate for that period with the personality totalling \$5,317.75 and his largest holdings in real estate. Evidently his wife Nancy W. left



with her children for Tennessee and first went to Williamson Co. where she bought the 128 acres in 1838. She may have lived there the rest of her life, I am not sure. I find only the marriage of one of her children there, - the second marriage of the daughter, Martha J. Manson Mason and John H. Neal on Aug. 30, 1837. By 1857 I find Benjamin S. Orgain witnessing deeds for James Edward Manson in Rutherford Co. So it is possible that the Orgains moved to that county also.

NOTE: Williamson County adjoins Rutherford County and the line may have been moved. Dr. Manson's property is near the line.

Dr. James Edward Manson, born June 29, 1823, Brunswick Co. died Jan 6, 1888, Rutherford County, Tenn-married Anne Eliza Crockett June 3, 1844. She was born Jan. 6, 1825 in Rutherford County, died March 7, 1880 in Rutherford. She was the daughter of Julia Granville Smith and Fontaine Posey Crockett of Frankfort, Ky. of French Huguenot family Crochetagne- (descendents eligible for Huguenot Society of Va. I am a member as is Paul McGee James).

- Issue:
1. Robert Granville Manson born 1859
  2. Anne Manson married James Owen
  3. Katherine (Kitty) Manson married Thomas Bass
  4. James Edward Manson married Mary Jane (Jennie) Jenkins

Dr. James Edward Manson was my father's grandfather, my great grand father and my grandchildren's great great grandfather. I remember many stories told about him and all show him to have been a Virginia gentleman and an educated man. According to family tradition and told me by Miss Isabella Washington, a cousin of my fathers and of mine, he had diversified occupation. He was a doctor who had younger men study under him (as did Dr. James J. Rucker who married the sister of my grandmother); a teacher while he was getting his medical degree; and later a horticulturist. He received his medical degree from the University of Penn. so we have always been told, but proof went out the end of a metal container in the form of gelatin when we tried to open the cylinder which

contained the old sheepskin. We need to document his degree at Harrisburg, Pa. (that's for future generations!!). We do know, however, that he purchased the practice of Dr. Wilkerson and also the Wilkerson turnpike which ended at his large two-story colonial home. It then became "Manson Pike", as it is today and the old home place still stands and is owned by a descendant of Dr. Manson-James Batey. It was Dr. Manson who put out the beautiful holly and magnolia trees which are now large and magnificent.

A story is told of how a Mr. Addison Willye, immigrant from Canada to Louisiana came by and asked to spend the night, and remained for 40 years. He was a nurseryman so he and Dr. Manson started a nursery in 1841 and planted every variety of fruit trees, flowering shrubs, and berries that would grow in that area. Isabella Washington said they put out boxwood all over Middle Tennessee, but said it was then called "boxbush" not "boxwood". I can remember avenues of lovely trees, grape arbors, and mazes of "box-bush" at all of the pretty old home places along the Manson Pike. Even now evidence remains that someone in that area was interested in landscaping.

Anne Eliza Crockett and Dr. James Edward Manson were married on June 3, 1844 in the garden of Anne Eliza's Aunt United America Smith and Uncle William Hunter Smith. He was her guardian after the death of her father, Fontaine Posey Crockett who as a young lieutenant went to join Andrew Jackson at New Orleans and stopped on Manson Pike, and met Anne Eliza's mother Julia Granville. After having many children, using up most of the resources given Julia Granville when she married him, he gently died still thinking he was a wealthy landowner and slave holder. (This is Isabella's version - - perhaps true since he was a heavy drinker and tubercular, we hear). William Hunter Smith and "Aunt Mec" left

Anne Eliza 200 acres, etc, etc, (Will Book 24, page 315, Rutherford County, Tenn. County Clerk's office).

Dr. Manson was a tall handsome man devoted to his Masonic brotherhood. A story was told me by one of his fraternity that during the Civil War a Company of Union soldiers came by the house and were preparing to burn it. The young captain would not accede to Dr. Manson's request that because of his wife's illness they pass them by, and were preparing to start the fire. At that moment Dr. Manson gave the Masonic distress signal and the young captain saluted and marched his soldiers away.

In the family today the name James Edward Manson remains down to the sixth generation and there still remains an intense interest in the Masonic faith. A picture is on the wall of the Masonic lodge in Murfreesboro, Tennessee of four generations of James Edward Mansons in their Knight Templar regalia carrying their swords. There are also other Templars and Shriners among direct descendants. The masonic sword of Dr. James Edward Manson was given by me to my son James Edward Manson James to be given later to his son, James Edward Manson James, Jr.

Today, May 26, 1972, I received an invitation to the graduation from medical school of James Edward Manson, the great, great grandson of the First Dr.. A great grandson, William Cresham Manson Jr. is also an M. D. in San Francisco, California. So tradition and training carry on.

James Edward Manson born June 18, 1853, Rutherford County, died Dec. 19, 1919 in Rutherford County, married Mary Jane (Jennie) Jenkins May 27, 1874. She was born Oct 25, 1854, Rutherford County, died Dec. 19, 1937-Winchester, Tennessee.

Issue: 1. Nimmie Manson married Guy Percival Bagwell

Their Issue:

- A. Annie Guy married Robert Jackson- No issue
- B. Virginia Bagwell married Rollo Every
  - (a) Rollo Merritt Every
  - (b) Miriam Anne Every



Dr. James Edward Manson & his daughter Kitty

2. James Edward Manson, Jr., born Mar 7, 1877, Rutherford County, died May 26, 1926, Russellville, Ala. Married Dec. 5, 1900, Rutherford County to Lucy Miles-born March 6, 1875, Rutherford County-died Jan. 21, 1963 in Rutherford County.
3. Virginia (Jennie) Manson married Ellis Hudgens  
Their Issue:
  - A. Findley Hudgens
  - B. Eugene Hudgens
  - C. Anne Hudgens
  - D. Jean Marie Hudgens
4. Katherine Manson married Ernest Sugg  
Their Issue:
  - A. Ernest Sugg, Jr.
  - B. James Edward Sugg
  - C. Mary Katherine Sugg
5. William Gresham Manson married Madge Jackson  
Their Issue:
  - A. William Gresham Manson, Jr.  
married Elizabeth Sprague
    - (a) Jeffrey Sprague Manson
    - (b) Carolyn Curtis Manson
    - (c) Elizabeth Jackson Manson
6. Annie Manson married Irving Martin
7. Marvin Cullum Manson married Nelle Thompson  
Their Issue:
  - A. James Edward Manson
  - B. Marvin Manson
  - C. Elaine Manson
8. Three children died in infancy - ( Joe, Ella, Walter)

Issue of James Edward Manson and Lucy Miles:

1. Camilla Manson born March 7, 1902 in Rutherford County, died March 12, 1957
2. Rosalind Virginia Manson born April 1, 1903 married John Hilsman James on March 15, 1926, in Daytona Beach, Florida. He was born Sept. 12, 1901 in Albany, Georgia.
3. Allie Manson born July 22, 1909, Rutherford County.

Issue of Rosalind Manson and John Hilsman James:

1. John Hilsman James Jr., born Oct 29, 1928, St Louis, Mo., married Rebecca Ruth Seat on Aug. 28, 1949 in Rutherford County. She was born April 13, 1928 in Rutherford County, Tenn.  
Their Issue:
  - A. Deborah James born Sept 1931, married Bradford Plunkey in Davidson County, Tn Aug 1972
  - B. Margaret Allison James born Oct 6, 1954 married Micheal Vietti in Davidson Co, July 1973
2. James Edward Manson James born Nov. 30, 1930 married Marcy Rider of Texas on Dec. 26, 1953 in Huntsville, Texas. She was born Aug. 25, 1935

Their Issue:

- A. James Edward Manson James, Jr.
- B. William Frank James
- C. Lucy Caroline James married Richard Ellis
- D. Camilla James

3. Paul McGee James, born Aug. 14, 1935 in Waycross, Ga. married Sarah Alice Turner from Selma, Alabama on Dec. 26, 1961. She was born April 8, 19--.

Their Issue:

- A. Rosalind Turner James, born Oct. 29, 1962
- B. Paul McGee James, Jr., born Aug. 4, 1964

The second James Edward Manson, my grandfather who married Mary Jane (Jennie) Jenkins was always interested in fruit trees, grapes, real estate, insurance -- never farming -- although all of his life he lived on the farm. His wife had inherited property on the Manson Pike from her father, Nimrod Jenkins, and here "Papa" and "Mammy" Manson reared their ten children--seven of whom lived to be married and have children of their own.

Many stories are told of how "Papa" would "take-off" to Texas to see his relatives (Cousin Hal) and also to sell fruit trees. He just was too kind and gentle to rear all those boys and girls. "Mammy" was a dynamo--just barely five feet tall, beautiful and dainty, but quite quite forceful! In later years when I was in social welfare work and visited many of the old age negro families I would be told stories of how "Mammy Manson" and "Miss Jennie" acted and how "Miss Jennie" gave the orders on the large farm while "Mr. Manson" went to the office in town--driving his "Horse-n-buggy" down Manson Pike through the "tollgate" where a five cent fare had to be paid by everyone else, but he "owned" the road. Actually the road was owned and kept up by a group of landowners along the road.

My father, "Jim-Eddy", as his mother called him, was a dynamo also. He began in early life to trade. An early venture was in having Cousin Hal Manson, or someone in Texas ship a carload of Texas Ponies to him and he'd sell at a profit. This trading in everything--ponies, cattle, farm-

lands, timber, produce, and real estate took him at such a fast clip that in Florida during the big "boom" he died at the age of 49. Hypertension could be a family characteristic, so watch for it.

At the homeplace where Pop and Mammy started housekeeping they had everything that grandchildren would desire---even an "office" in the yard where we'd be allowed to play when weather was really bad and where I think I was actually born although my earliest recollection is on the porch of the pretty cottage (of about eight rooms) that daddy and mother built when I came into the world. It is still standing, but the constantly enlarged home of my grandparents has been torn down and an interstate road goes by. Still standing, however, is one of the old Jenkins homesteads with the beautiful columns and tree shaded lawns.

In the "Depression Years" everything was lost--except family solidarity. Property manipulation proved disastrous, but the family helped each other again and again and although some moved away and some passed away always there remained the feeling of "belonging" to each other. That's why I'm writing this to the youngsters - - to help them understand that the old saying "blood is thicker than water" is not trite. It is true.

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Rosalind M. James
- - Buford Family in America  
by Mildred, page 363 on Manson Buford Minter
- - William and Mary College Fraternity  
Volume 10, page 115
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Registrars Office of Rutherford County, Tenn
- - Family keepsakes  
such as death notices, old newspaper clippings, etc.



THE JENKINS HOMES in RUTHERFORD COUNTY

by- Rosalind Manson James

A WILL probated in Greene County, Ohio, 11 November 1807 (quote)  
 "Item 5, I give to my sons Hiram Jenkins and Nimrod Jenkins nineteen  
 hundred and twenty acres of land in the State of Tennessee to be  
 divided in the same manner that I directed it when I was there, ex-  
 clusive of what they have had, to them and to their heirs and assigns  
 forever. October 11, 1807" signed/Aaron Jenkins

This WILL of 1920 acres really started the fun! Where did Aaron  
 who was only a private in John Guthray's Class Roll (c) First Battalion  
 Washington County, Pa Militia during the Revolution, get this Tennessee  
 property? Well, since 1960 there have been "cousins" from Los Angeles,  
 California; Portsmouth, Ohio; Mocha Bend, Missouri; Harrisburg, Pa. and  
 me here in Rutherford County searching for verification of that bequest.  
 The court house has been beseiged and volumes of records copied and all  
 has been enjoyed.

I have found that we "Jenkinses" are numerous and inquisitive. We  
 have documentation of purchase by the immigrants of property in Pa. and  
 Virginia since 1752 so the "cousins" came to document the Tennessee  
 property.

We took them to see "Marymont" and from that beautiful antebellum  
 home which is still in the family and from this they "advertized" to all  
 interested "cousins" around the country.

What they didn't know until they toured the county and copied wills  
 and court records of the numerous law suits at the Court House just how  
 the beautiful "Marymont" evolved.

The story is simple- For Revolutionary service Aaron II (Aaron I was from Frederick County, Virginia) received 640 acres for service and probably bought adjoining grants.

"In 1799 Aaron and his wife Rebecca Baldwin Jenkins and five of their children moved from Pettis County, Missouri settling on Stones River near Murfreesboro in Rutherford County. Rebecca died enroute 17 May 1799 and was buried at Crab Orchard, Kentucky. Aaron returned to Pennsylvania and married Charity Harlan Garwood, a Quakeress. During his absence, his sons killed and assisted in killing fifty-two bears, in which the country greatly abounded."

"In 1804, Aaron and Charity with their family-with the exception of sons, Hiram and Nimrod, returned to Ohio to land purchased in 1799 from Albert Gallatin."

It was Nimrod and Hiram who built the first Jenkins house on the northeast part of the "Marymont" property. It is still standing (just off the lane leading to the old Kingwood property).

The two large rooms were well built of brick with good features of deep window sills, large twelve paned windows, a chimney at each end, and a porch across the front with small round pillars.

A story is told in the family of how one night a recurrent dream disturbed Nimrod so he got up and went back to where there was a very deep spring and there buried their hoard of gold. When he returned to the house he found that thieves had ransacked the place.

This house was the beginning of a series of fine Jenkins homes in our community.

Nimrod never married but his brother Hiram I married Deborah Allison, ( Davidson County Marriage Book), May 31, 1803. Since Rutherford County was created from Davidson County in 1803 they probably

Married here. He built his home on the Manson Pike (then not named perhaps) and there reared a large family. That house burned and the old graveyard was destroyed but I rescued two tall marble markers from Mr. Martindale's barn (later owned by Frank Womack) and had these placed in the Jenkins lot in Evergreen Cemetery. They marked the graves of Hiram Jenkins, Jr. who was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, February 21, 1780 and moved to Tennessee in the year 1797 and died 10 October 1857.

"Blessed are the pure in Hart for they shall  
see God"

(and the other)

In memory of Nimrod Jenkins  
Born in Pettis Co, Missouri  
Septr. 22

1822

Died in Rutherford Co.  
Tenn Dec 13

1855

Nimrod Jenkins was united in marriage with  
Jane W. Moore  
of Rutherford Co., Jan 18, 1854  
and closed his earthly career  
Dec 13, 1855

"Blessed are the dead which  
die in the Lord from henceforth  
Yes saith the spirit they  
may rest from their labor and  
their works do follow them.

Nimrod I never married. He left a WILL which caused many lawsuits (see Rutherford County court records). But my ancestor Nimrod II (named for his uncle) married January 18, 1854-Jane Woodson Moore and they had two daughters, Mary Jane (Jenny) and Nimmie (named for her father who had died shortly before her birth). He had built a house, however, on the Jenkins property which he had inherited across the lane (later named Gresham Lane) from his father's place on the Manson Pike. After his death "Mittie," as she was called married Captain Amossa Gresham and



Original Jenkins home built about 1807 on "Marymount" property on Rucker lane.



James Jenkins home on Manson Pike built by Hiram Jenkins Sr. and owned by Robert Martindale in 1969.

there they reared their large family. This home was used during the Battle of Stone's River as a hospital and was known as the "Gresham Place." This home remained in the family until in the early 1930's, when it was sold to Mr. Allen Ragland. Ownership changed several times, it burned, and now among the large oaks and maple trees is a modern brick home owned by Mr. Thomas Lane.

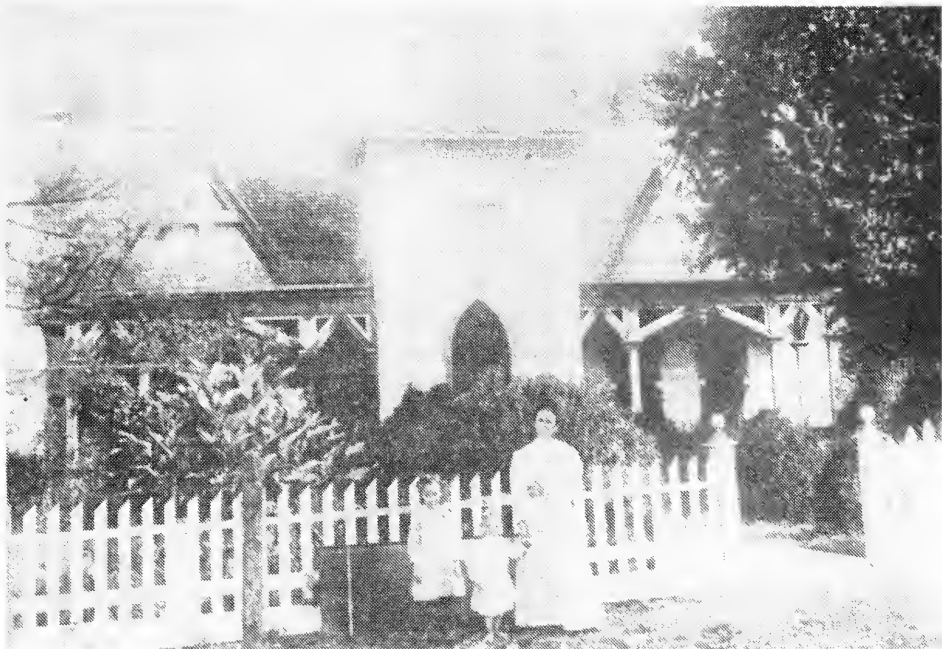
Another Jenkins home was almost directly across from the Gresham place and also the Frank Womack place (former Hiram Jenkins home, identical in architecture to the Nimrod Jenkins place) was Jennie Jenkins Manson's place. It was a typical Victorian home with tall windows across the front and a vestibule style entry. Ceilings were high, rooms were large and the "parlor" had a black marble mantel and black iron fireplace. Around the high walls were enlarged family photographs. This home also is gone, the interstate intersects the property and another land mark is gone.

A smaller, but sturdy brick house down the road toward the city of Murfreesboro still stands, a pretty Jenkins home. Hiram Jenkins II gave his daughter Alice Jenkins this home when she married Mr. H. H. Kerr, but when she died in 1870 he sold it. It reminds us however, that homes built sturdily, though storms and disasters came, they remain - as the first Jenkins two-room house on "Marymont" property, the Hiram or James Jenkins house on Manson Pike, and "Marymont" itself.

"Marymont" was built by Hiram Jenkins II (brother of Nimrod II) and his wife Nancy Puckett while he was guardian for the infant daughters of Nimrod, Jennie and Nimmie. This is on the other end of the Jenkins property and was the property inherited by Nimmie Jenkins who married Dr. James J. Rucker, and was named for their only surviving child, Mary. It was greatly embellished about the time of Mary's marriage to R. E. Donnell

by the addition of the Corinthian columns. All of the children of the family liked to visit there and ride Dr. Rucker's horses and see and lay around the deer park kept by Dr. Rucker for Mary. It still stands and is a reminder to us to protect and preserve.

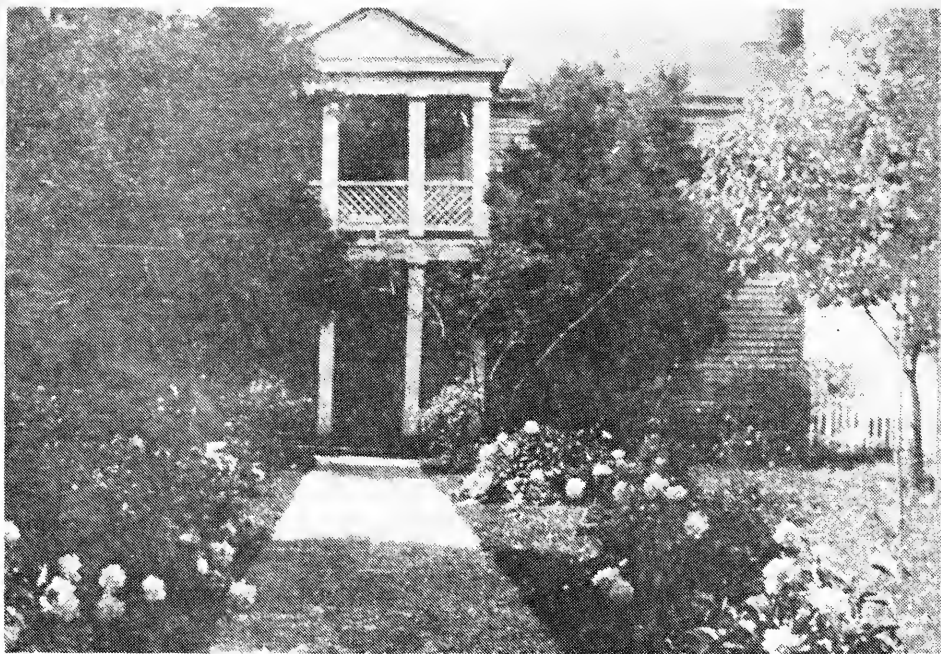
May we always keep alive our interest in our Jenkins "cousins" and always appreciate what our forbears did to enrich our lives and the lives of our progeny.



Dr. James E. Manson son James E. Mansons home on Manson Pike.  
House now gone and site occupied by Bascom Williamson house.  
Jennie Jenkins Manson ,Virginia Bagwell & Findley Hudgens are  
in the picture.



The Jenkins home on the Manson pike & Cresham lane.  
In the field was the former home of Hiram 1. It burned.



Jenkins - Gresham house on Manson Pike. Built about 1850 & used as a hospital in Battle of Stones River.



Marymount- Home of Mary Rucker Donnell. Built about 1861 by Hiram Jenkins on Rucker Lane



RUTHERFORD COUNTY, TENNESSEE WILL ABSTRACTS

BY

SUSAN G. DANIEL

38. Record Book 3, Page 29 - Will of James McEwen of Rutherford County, TN - Date of Will: 26 June 1814 - Recorded: 4 May 1815 Wife: Sarah McEwen sons: John Martin McEwen, Alexander McEwen, James McEwen, William McEwen, Josiah McEwen daughters: Margery Stewart, Sarah Henderson, Mary Miller McEwen grandson: David McEwen, son of William Executors: friends, Alexander McEwen, James McEwen Witnesses: John Alexander, John M. McKnight
  
39. Record Book 3, Page 31 - Will of Tarrance Burns - Date of Will: 18 April 1814 - Recorded: 4/11 May 1815 Wife: Ruth 3 eldest sons: As(b)urry, Charles C., James son: Jesse (when comes of age) legatees: As(b)urry, Burns, Charles C. Burns, James Burns, Jesse Burns, Sarah Burns, Lois Burns, Mary R. Burns, John M. Burns, Bethemia/Bethunia Burns, Ruth D. Burns Executor: Wife Witness: Horatio Burns
  
40. Record Book 3, Page 34 - Will of George Goodman of Rutherford County, TN - Date of Will: 5 November 1814 - Recorded: 4 May 1815 Wife: Jane Goodman Only son: James Goodman 4 daughters: Elizabeth Goodman (possibly married - sgd), Nancy C. Goodman, Caty G. Goodman, Jane Goodman Slave: boy, Jack (owned by Ant. Kinnard) Executors: wife and Alexander McKeen(McEwen?) Witnesses: Townzin Fuget, John Bullard
  
41. Record Book 3, Page 47 - Will of David Barton of Rutherford County, TN Date of Will: 12 July 1815 - Recorded: July term 1815 Wife: Hannah Barton "money due me from the estate of Daniel Bird Smith" daughters: Violet, Sarah sons: Swinfield, Robert, Joshua Slaves: woman, Luce with her son Ben and woman, Nancy to wife then divided between sons at wife's death; child Charlott (daughter of Jenny) to Violet; woman, Bett to Sarah; girl, Mary and Simon her son Executors: Joshua and Swinfield, sons Witnesses: Jonathan Price, Isaac Hill, John Dickson
  
42. Record Book 3, Page 97 - Will of William Dickinson of Raleigh, Wake County, N.C. - Date of Will: 14 August 1813 - Recorded: ? Wife: Nancy Executor: Mark Cooke
  
43. Record Book 3, Page 99 - Will of Walter Keeble, Senior - See Item # recorded Record Book 3, Page 200
  
44. Record Book 3, Page 101 - Will of Thomas Crossthwait of Rutherford County, TN - Date of Will: 22 November 1815 - Recorded: ? Wife: Elizabeth Brother: Shelton Crossthwait son: William (not 21 - Brother is guardian of son) "my children" Executors: Wife and brother, Shelton Witnesses: W. Keeble, Jr., George Simpson, N. Cassidy, Samuel Watkins
  
45. Record Book 3, Page 103 - Will of Joseph Thompson of Cripple of Rutherford County, TN - Date of Will: 16 October 1815 Wife: Elizabeth grandson, James Harvey Thompson & granddaughter, Sally Thompson (children of my son James Thompson, deceased) daughter: Critty Thompson Executors: Robert Kirk, Nathan Lyon Witnesses: Joshua Haskill, James Carmack, Alexander Scott, Thomas Berry, James McFerrin

46. Record Book 3, Page 107 - Will of James Berry of Rutherford County, TN  
Date of Will: 13 November 1814    Wife: Elizabeth Berry    "my children  
as they arrive at age"    sons: John Campbell Berry, James Laughlin  
Berry    "wife now pregnant"    Executors: Wife & Thomas Berry  
Witnesses: James McFerrin, Burton L. McFerrin, Young Laughlin
  
47. Record Book 3, Page 108 - Will of Miles Freeman - Date of Will: 2 Feb-  
ruary 1815 - Recorded: July term 1815    Wife: Margaret    "my children"  
Witnesses: Jacob Payne, Charles B. Collier, Willie Hutson
  
48. Record Book 3, Page 109 - Will of Gwin Howell of Rutherford County, TN  
Date of Will: 24 July 1812 - Recorded: July term (1815?)    Wife: Cath-  
arine W. Howell    Brother: William Howell    Sisters: Nancy Nelson,  
Margaret Whitside (Whitsett?)    Executors: Catharine W. Howell, Gwin  
Edwards, James Whitside (Whitsett?)    Witnesses: Mary Williamson, Hardy  
Pope, L. Davis
  
49. Record Book 3, Page 110 - Will of Bird Nance/Nancy of Rutherford County,  
TN - Date of Will: 18 November 1814    Wife: not named    sons: John  
Nance, William Nance    daughters: Elizabeth Nance, Sally Nance  
Slaves: woman, Luce and all her increase be equally divided between  
Lucy Gambill, John Nance, Elizabeth Nance, William Nance and Sally  
Nance; man, Peter to wife but later to James H. Nance and Polly I.  
Nance and Thomas Nance and Milly B. Nance    Executors: friend, Allin  
Nance, James Stanford    Witnesses: Ryliegh D. Murry, John Smith
  
50. Record Book 3, Page 111 - Will of Robert Bedford of Rutherford County,  
TN - Date of Will: 5 July 1813    Wife: Mary Coleman Bedford  
5 sons: Stephen Bedford, Robert Bedford, Clement Read Bedford, Edwin  
Walton Bedford, Thomas Jefferson Bedford    daughters: Mary Anne Eliza  
Bedford, Mary Nash Johns, Lucy Legrand Rucker, Fanny Anne Bedford  
4 youngest children (all not of age): Fanny Anne, Edwin Walton, Thomas  
Jefferson, Mary Anne Eliza    Slaves to Lucy: Milly, Presly, Letty (dead),  
girl, Aggy    Slaves to wife: Frank, Rose, Nancy, Amy, Clarisa, Juber,  
Nancy (daughter of Nancy)    Slaves: boy, Jerry to Stephen; boy, Milus  
to Robert; boy, John to Clement; boy, Anthony to Edwin; woman, Nisey  
(and increase after this) to Thomas; girl, Cinda to Fanny; girl,  
Christian to Fanny; girl, Fanny to Fanny; girl, Jinny to Fanny; girl,  
Tabby to Mary A. Eliza; girl, Maria to Mary A. Eliza; girl, Nanny to  
Mary A. Eliza; girl, Sally to Mary A. Eliza; men, George and Littleton  
to be sold    Executors: John Spence, John Hoover, Col. William W.  
Searcy    Witnesses: William Thweatt, George Akin, Elizabeth Daughity,  
James Daughity, Elizabeth Akin
  
51. Record Book 3, Page 118 - Will of Beaty McCoy of Rutherford County, TN  
Date of Will: 16 February 1814 - Recorded: 7 May 1816    Wife: Peggy  
McCoy    sons: Henry McCoy, Ezekiel Beaty McCoy, Amox Alexander McCoy,  
Francis Bradley McCoy, James McCoy, John McCoy    daughter: Easther  
Boggs    son-in-law: David Parks "that was married to Abigail McCoy,  
now dead"    Slaves: man, Adam to Henry; man, Isaac to Ezekiel; girl,  
Hannah to Amos; yellow boy, Jacob to Francis; woman, Darkis to be sold  
Executors: Ezekiel and Henry    Witnesses: James D. Wooten, Henry  
Norman, Andrew Hall

52. Record Book 3, Page 121 - Will of Samuel Moody of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 9 September 1815 - Recorded: 7 May 1816      give to: Samuel  
W. Henderson, Eliza E. Henderson      Slave: boy, Joe      Administrators:  
Walter Keeble, Henry Trott      Witnesses: Henry W. McBroom, John  
Stockird, Richard Henderson
  
53. Record Book 3, Page 122 - Will of James Davidson of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 2 March 1816 - Recorded: 7 May 1816      Executor and son:  
John Davidson      daughters: Rebecca Young, Martha Davidson, Sarah Lusk,  
Mary Johnson, Ruthy McGee, Sinthy Hubbard      named: Martha Benson and  
her sister, Jane      granddaughters: Polly Kirke, Sarah Davidson  
Witnesses: Samuell Killough, William Wilson
  
54. Record Book 3, Page 125 - Verbal Will of William Hill of Rutherford  
Co., TN - Date of Will: 26 February 1816 - Recorded: 7 May 1816  
Wife and children: not names      Before: Solomon Beesley, J.P., 28 Feb.  
Witnesses: James Taylor, John Hill      1816
  
55. Record Book 3, Page 132 - Will of Squire Knox of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 24 February 1816 - Recorded: 8 May 1816      Wife:  
Susannah (now pregnant)      son: Washington      daughters: not named  
Executors: Charles Ready; brother, Joseph Knox      Witnesses: Elijah  
Smith, Thomas Knox, Angles McCloud
  
56. Record Book 3, Page 142 - Verbal Will of William Manning of Rutherford  
Co., TN - He died: 15 February 1816      Will subscribed: 25 February 1816  
Names: half brothers and sisters      Witnesses: Thomas Washington, James  
G. Washington
  
57. Record Book 3, Page 144 - Verbal Will of William Ranson - Date of Will:  
2 February 1816 - Recorded: 9 May 1816      2 sisters      Witnesses: Ben-  
jamin Ransom, Charles C. Holt, Hezia Ransom
  
58. Record Book 3, Page 147 - Will of William Johnson - Date of Will:  
19 January 1816 - Recorded: 10 May 1816      Wife: Rebecca (this is her  
first marriage)      Slaves: woman, Said/Sade; child, Leah  
\*wife's share divided on her death or marriage to: John Johnson,  
Nancy Kuykendall, Edward Johnson, Mildred Miller, James Johnson,  
William Johnson, Polly Taylor      named: Matthew Johnson      wife's  
son: Larkin Johnson      Executors: Green Norman, James Higgins  
Witnesses: John Dean, Jonas Sikes      \*\*Widow is dissatisfied with  
will
  
59. Record Book 3, Page 173 - Will of John Keys of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 25 April 1816 - Recorded: 25 July 1816      Wife: Margaret  
"her family till youngest comes of age"      son: James D.      daughters:  
not named      Executors: John Weatherspoon, Moses McKnight      Witnesses:  
David McKnight, Charles Porterfield, Benjamin Knox
  
60. Record Book 3, Page 200 - Will of Walter Keeble, Sr. of Rutherford  
Co., TN late of Cumberland Co., VA - Date of Will: 8 July 1811 -  
Recorded: 1 August 1816 (\*See Item #43)      "body interred by rights  
of Episcopal church"      son: Walter Keeble (known as Walter Keeble, Black-  
head)      Slaves: mulatto man, Bauldy and his wife, Sukey and their 3  
children, Henry, William and a male infant now at the breast - emanci-  
pates all including increase of Sukey; boy, John      Witnesses: John  
Winn, John Hoover, Peter Winn

61. Record Book 3, Page 203 - Will of Thomas Black of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 23 April 1816 - Recorded: 1 August 1816 daughters:  
Rebecca and her husband, Moses Cramer; Polly Black; Jane Finny Black,  
Peggy and her husband, John Doak sons: Samuel P. Black, James Black  
Executors: friends, William Ray, Ephraim Farr and son, Samuel P. Black  
Apprentice: Jonathan Thomas (till 21 and more than 3 years remain)  
Witnesses: John Carter, Jacob H. Thorn
62. Record Book 3, Page 226 - Will of John Warren - Date of Will: 18 June  
1816 - Recorded: 20 November 1816 Wife: Marget "3 children":  
daughter, Luiza; son, Peterson; son, Benjamin Brother: William  
Warren Slaves to wife: Vine, Abram, Silvey Slaves hired out  
till youngest children of age: Jerry, Arter, Dick and Jim, Cornelia,  
Venice, Mary, Marina Executors: Wife and brother, William Warren  
Witnesses: David Williams, John Thompson
63. Record Book 3, Page 228 - Will of Isaac Wright of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 7 February 1812 - Codicil: 16 September 1814 - Recorded:  
20 November 1816 Wife: Rebekah Wright Eldest daughter: Mary Dill  
daughters: Hannah Statler, Elizabeth Brashear, Rebekah Goodloe  
sons: Abram Wright, Jacob Wright, Thompson Wright grandsons: Nathan  
Brashear, Isaac Wright Brashear Owes estate: Thomas Searcy  
landowners named: George Parks, Squire Phelps, McCorkle, Bell  
Slaves: Elam, boy; Jude, girl; Creed; Anna; boy Allen to Jacob Wright;  
man, Elam to Thompson Wright after death of wife; man, Sam may have his  
freedom for \$150.00; woman, Grace to wife Executors: Jacob Wright,  
son; Jesse Brashear, son-in-law Witnesses: David Phillips, Isaac  
Jetton, James Neilly  
CODECIL: names Thompson Wright, son, in right of Jesse Brashear as  
Executor
64. Record Book 4, Page 2 - Will of Joseph Wallace of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 13 October 1816 - Recorded: 1 December 1816 Wife:  
Elizabeth son: William Witnesses: John R. Bedford, Thomas Evans
65. Record Book 4, Page 72 - Will of Lemuel Lanier of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 28 February 1817 - Filed: April term 1817 - Recorded:  
29 August 1817 Wife: Lucy Lanier daughters: Patsey Fagan, Betsy  
Floyd Grandsons: Robert Fagan (receives any issue of slave, Grace),  
Samuel L. Kelly and Abner Kelly, Richard Floyd Slaves: woman, Dafney  
and man, Daniel to wife; woman, Grace to Patsey; woman, Beck to Betsy;  
boy, Joseph and boy, Alex to Betsy; boys William and Anthony and also  
Dafney after wife's death to Samuel and Abner Kelly; man, Daniel after  
wife's death to Richard Executor: Jesse Brashear, Drury Floyd  
Witnesses: David Price, Rhoda Price
66. Record Book 4, Page 76 - Will of Patrick Sullivan of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 10 April 1817 - Recorded: 30 August 1817 Wife: Ann  
Sullivan sons: John E. Sullivan, Daniel Sullivan, James Sullivan,  
Robert Sullivan daughters: Polly McKeen, Nancy Young, Ann Davis,  
Peggy Sullivan, Milly Sullivan Witnesses: John Alexander, James McKee

67. Record Book 4, Page 87 - Will of James Wilson of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 2 September 1817 - Recorded: 1 December 1817 Wife:  
Sarah Wilson sons: Samuel Wilson, John Wilson, Givins Wilson,  
Daniel Wilson daughter: Nancy Wilson Slaves: Old Pompy, August,  
Young Pompey, Jude and her female child named Sindey to wife; male  
Prince to Samuel; female, Lydia and boy, Weston to Nancy; male,  
Monday to John; male, Peet to Givens; boy, Dick to Daniel  
Executors: wife, son Samuel, brother-in-law Samuel Givins of Shelby-  
ville, nephew James Whitsett of Shelbyville Witnesses: Henry Holmes,  
John Davidson, James Neelly
68. Record Book 4, Page 114 - Will of Benjamin Waller of Rutherford Co.,  
TN - Date of Will: 22 November 1817 - Filed: March term 1818  
Wife: Martha Children: Nancy Pinkard, William Waller, Benjamin P.  
Waller, Patsey Waller (names daughters Polly Pinkard and Nancy  
Pinkard - Polly and Nancy possibly the same person - sgd) "money  
due me in Virginia" grandson: Edward (who lives with me)  
Slaves: man, Mat; woman, Tamur; woman, Nan (to wife in lifetime then  
sold) - girl, Vilet to Nancy; girl, Charlotte to William; girl,  
Lavina to Benjamin; girls, Charity and Susan (choice to Patsey)  
Executor: William Waller, Benjamin P. Waller and Baily Pinkard  
Witnesses: Jonathan Welborn, Elias Pinkard, William Johnson
69. Record Book 4, Page 118 - Will of William McCorkle of Rutherford Co.,  
TN - Date of Will: 25 December 1816 - Filed: March term 1818  
Wife: Jane sons: John, Samuel M., Richard B., Miles daughters:  
Amelia, Blanch Locke son-in-law: William Anderson sister-in-law:  
Clarisa Graham "my father's land" Slaves: boy, George"to wife  
till he is 28 years then set free if prudent and safe"; man, Hose to  
Samuel; boy, Micah to Richard till 28 then set free; boy, Bob to  
William till 28 then set free; boy, Anderson to Miles then set free  
at 28; boy, Bradford to Clarisa then set free at 28; woman, Dine(freed)  
Executors: James A. Wilson, Daniel Travers and wife Witnesses:  
William Travers, Joshua Nichols
70. Record Book 4, Page 121 - Will of David Keas (Keys?) - Date of Will:  
22 March 1817 - Filed: March term 1818 Wife: Kitty 2 youngest  
children: Erasmus S. Keas, Margaret F. Keas Children: Harriott M.  
Keas, Eliza C. Keas, Thizza Keas, Mary F. Keas, Erasmus S. Keas,  
Margaret F. Keas Slaves: all to be sold Executors: Joseph Sharpe  
and John L. Jetton Witnesses: Adam Simmons, William Thomas, Eliza  
Keas
71. Record Book 4, Page 127 - Will of Jonathan Poe of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 26 February 1816 - Filed: June term 1818 Wife: Tabitha  
Poe sons: Rhodin Poe, John Poe, George Poe daughter: Fanny Ransen  
Slave: mulatto boy, James about 18 years - freed Executors: Joseph  
Lannum of Wilson Co., Nathan Lannum of Rutherford Co. Witnesses:  
William Nash, John Arnold
72. Record Book 4, Page 128 - Will of John Hampton of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 1 May 1817 - Filed: March term 1818 Wife: not named  
3 youngest children: daughter, Rebecca; daughter, Martha; son, Isaiah  
Elder children: sons: John, James, Thomas, William, Richard and daughter:  
Mary son-in-law: George Stinnett Slave: negro give to John  
Executors: Edward Moreland, Solomon Beesley Witnesses: Christopher  
Batey, Nathaniel Underwood

73. Record Book 4, Page 151 - Will of Henry Wigger of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 2 June 1818 - Recorded: June term 1818    Wife: Rebecca  
Daughter: Susy (not yet 18)    Executor: Jonathan Shearwood  
Witnesses: Robert Miller, John Miller
  
74. Record Book 4, Page 164 - Will of Lazarus Crawford - Date of Will:  
29 March 1818 - Recorded: Sept. term 1818    Wife: Rebecca    son:  
Raiford    grandson: Olin Lancer (not yet 4 years old)    daughters:  
Dellia Joslin, Temperance Thompson    "eldest of 2 youngest children  
by my last wife": Baldwin Augustus (not yet 15)    Slaves: girl, Dicy  
to wife then at wife's decease to "my 2 youngest children by my first  
wife"; Allen (first son of Dicy) to Olin; man, Ellis to Raiford; man,  
Fountaine to Raiford; woman, Hannah to Raiford; boy, Richmond and girl,  
Famar to Dellia; girl, Tenah and girl, Cassa to Temperance; boy, Peter  
to be hired    Executors: son, Raiford and Solomon Beesley    Witnesses:  
B. Gannaway, H. Robinson
  
75. Record Book 4, Page 167 - Will of Thomas Washington of Rutherford Co.,  
TN - Date of Will: 20 March 1818 - Recorded: Sept. term 1818    Land-  
owners named: Hardy Pope, John James, Heseekiah Frederick    "my 3  
children": James G. Washington, Mary E. Washington, William L. Washing-  
ton    Wife: Jennett Washington    grandsons: ~~William W. Masterson,~~  
~~Thomas G. Masterson~~    father-in-law: Allen Love, deceased - Granville  
Co., N.C.    Wife's brother: John Love, deceased of Petersburg, VA  
Guardians: (2 oldest sons) Gilbert G. Washington, Thomas Washington  
(they are guardians of Mary E. and William L. as well as 2 grandsons  
William W. and Thomas G. Masterson)    Mother: Sarah Washington  
Slaves: Solomon, Randal, July, Manuel, Simon - to wife; Tom, Peter,  
Daniel - to James; Maclin, Jude, Moses - to Mary; Jim, Allen, Abraham  
- to William; "number in Brunswick Co., VA    Executors: 3 oldest sons:  
Gilbert G., Thomas, Jr., James G. Washington    Witnesses: L. Anderson,  
Jonathan Currin, Charles Douglas  
Codecil: 3 executors are to execute will of Thomas Masterson, deceased  
Witnesses: Memucan Wade, Corey James
  
76. Record Book 4, Page 171 - Will of Asa A. Paul of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: None - Recorded: Sept. term 1818    Wife: Pembroke Paul  
my children: James A. Paul, Betsey C. Paul, Polly C. Paul, Zachariah  
M. Paul    Executor: Wife    Witnesses: Samuel Bowman, Adeline Bowman
  
77. Record Book 4, Page 181 - Will of Joseph Bowman of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 16 April 1818 - Recorded: June term 1818    2 sons not  
21: Hamilton Bowman, William Bowman    sisters-in-law: Polly and Dorry  
Hamilton    "children's mother is dead"    sister: Polly McNeely  
"William Lewis living on my land"    Slaves: London and Jack hired out  
till sons come of age; woman, Lucy to Polly McNeely    Executors: Samuel  
Bowman, Alexander McNeely, David Robinson    Witnesses: John Wade,  
William Bowman
  
78. Record Book 4, Page 185 - Will of John Beesley of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 27 November 1816 - Filed: Dec. term 1818    Wife: not  
named    daughter: Polly    son: Solomon    Named: William Moseley  
Executors: wife, son and Hugh Robinson    Witnesses: H. Robinson,  
Andrew Hands, Eliza Robinson

79. Record Book 4, Page 192 - Will of Joel Childress of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 10 August 1819 - Filed: Sept. term 1819 Wife: Elizabeth  
4 children: Anderson Childress, Susan Childress, Sally or Sarah Childress,  
John W. Childress (all under 21) Named: Kingsley Slaves:  
John and his wife, Kiziah; Isaac and Lydia (all to wife) Executors:  
Samuel P. Black and son, Anderson Childress Witnesses: Joseph McMinn,  
Blackman Coleman, Edmund Jones
80. Record Book 4, Page 199 - Will of James Rucker of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 14 July 1819 - Filed: Sept. term 1819 Wife: Nancy Rucker  
daughters: Betsy Donelson, Lucinda Miller,, Joanna Price, Joice Rucker  
sons: Jonathan Rucker, Henry F. Rucker, James Rucker, Benjamin Rucker,  
William R. Rucker, Samuel R. Rucker, Weston Rucker, Jack W. Rucker,  
Joseph B. Rucker, Robert Rucker Landowners: Burrus, Samuel  
R. Rucker, Dr. Yanday's, Thomas Rucker Slaves: Jim, Sal, Hareda (?),  
Mumy, John, Will, Kate, Joe, Easter, Jack, Amy, Hillis, Michael, Juda,  
Iquim - to wife; Nelson and Jame - to Betsy; Abram and Suca - to Lucinda;  
Ned (which he has sold off), Hannah - to Jonathan; Hill and Phena - to  
Henry; Charlotte and Sanda (Charles being a gift from his grandfather  
Read) - to James; Bartlett, Nina and her child Jim - to Benjamin; Brient,  
Ceily - to William; David and Betty - to Samuel; Sarah, Critty, Stephen  
and Milly - to Johanna; Beverly and Bridget - to Weston; Lydia, Hanna,  
Lewis and Dick - to Lydia; Darcus, Frank, Rachael - to Jack; Darius,  
Mourin and Doll - to Joseph; Jim, Adaline and Jude's youngest child -  
to Robert Executors: James, Benjamin, William R. and Samuel  
R. Rucker Witnesses: Thos. Rucker, Jr., Thomas L. Rucker, Jr.,  
Thomas Rucker, Sen.
81. Record Book 4, Page 205 - Will of James Taylor of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 12 December 1817 - Filed: Sept. term 1819 Wife: Sary  
Taylor daughter: Dorcas Arnold grandson: King Patterson (his  
parents are Alex Patterson and Sary, his wife) Named: Jesse Taylor  
Executor: son, James Taylor Witnesses: Benjamin Ransom, James Snell,  
Joseph Smith
82. Record Book 4, Page 209 - Will of Thomas Evans of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 20 August 1819 - Filed: Sept. 1819 Wife: Temperance  
"our ten children": Julian, Angeline, James, Luan, William, Susanna,  
Harrison, Jerusha, Winnifield, Manda Executors: wife and James  
McMillion Witnesses: Theos. A. Canon, John Sharp, Lemuel Wright
83. Record Book 4, Page 227 - Will of John Miller of Rutherford Co., TN  
Date of Will: 17 October 1819 - Filed: Dec. term 1819 sons: Isaac J.  
Miller (not yet 15), William W. Miller (not of age) daughters:  
Rebecca Miller (not of age or married), Margaret, Mary Miller, Nancy  
Miller, Jenny, Ellender Wife: Mildred Landowners: "bought from  
Robert Miller" Executors: wife and son, Isaac Witnesses: Isaac  
Miller, William Johnson
84. Record Book 4, Page 232 - Will of William Nickson of Rutherford Co.,  
TN - Date of Will: 15 April 1819 - Filed: Dec. term 1819 Wife:  
Hannah "3 youngest children" Witnesses: Joseph Morton, Thomas  
Edwards, William Walker

85. Record Book 4, Page 233 - Will of William Morris of Rutherford Co., TN  
 Date of Will: 20 November 1817 - Filed: Dec. term 1819 "woman I now  
 live with": Letty Little my children: Daniel Morris, James Morris,  
 Mary Morris, Nancy Morris Executor: Esaac Morris Witnesses:  
 William Johnson, Edward Johnson, Edward Taylor
86. Record Book 4, Page 237 - Will of James Macklin of Rutherford Co., TN  
 Date of Will: 21 November 1818 - Filed: Dec. term 1819 sons: John  
 A. Macklin, David W. Macklin, Robert Macklin, William A. Macklin, James  
 S. Macklin daughters: Peggy H. Bumpass, Catharine S. Bone(Bowen?),  
 Unice Macklin, Jame Overall Executors: W. A. Macklin (son) and  
 William Bumpass Witnesses: George Rowland, Abner Wasson



## RUTHERFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

by - E. K. Johns

Rutherford County tried to begin a Historical Society on September 2, 1966 when Dr. Homer Pittard, County Historian, called a meeting at Middle Tennessee State University Arena Theater. Twenty-four persons attended the first meeting, and elected officers and discussed suggested projects. No other meetings were held by this group according to our records. However, the interest was there in our county for a Historical Society.

On December 17, 1970 Dr. Homer Pittard called another meeting in Room 208 at the Middle Tennessee State University Administration building. Eight people attended this meeting and the third Monday of each month was agreed on as a meeting night. Regular meetings, programs, dues and working officers got things rolling. Within a few months Mr. Henry Wray was elected president and by-laws were adopted. Dues were four dollars for charter members and five dollars for other members.

The County Court was asked to appoint an Archivist, and Mr. Henry Wray was chosen for this position. He soon began collecting historical material in a file cabinet and started publishing historical articles in the Daily News Journal, Sunday edition.

At the May 1972 meeting Mr. Wray was asked to act as editor for a publication similar to the one Williamson County was publishing. The first publication was issued in July 1973. Since that time they have been issued twice each year-in July and January. Mr. Henry Wray continued the job of assembling the publication for four more issues. He then moved to California and Ernest K. Johns was assigned this responsibility.

On May 20, 1973 a field trip was taken to the Blackman community led by Mr. Bob Baskin and Mr. Fred Brigance. Other field trips later were to Kittrell, Readyville, and to Smyrna, Lascassas, Stones River Battlefield- Murfreesboro, Cannonsburg, Triune and Tennessee State Museum. A school bus was used for the field trips.

In May 1974 the Historical Society published the 1840 Census of Rutherford County. This was the first extra publication issued for sale and not given out as part of the dues. Later in 1977, C. C. Henderson's History of Murfreesboro was reprinted. An Index to the first five publications, by Dottie Matheny was published in 1979. The Carlton Sims History of Rutherford County was reprinted in 1981. These extra publications also include the three volumes of cemetery records published jointly with the Sons of the American Revolution, in 1975. These publications have added considerably to our treasury.

At the December 1974 meeting the first commemorative plate was issued. The first plate featured the county courthouse. W. H. Westbrook was responsible for this project. The first order was rapidly sold and more plates were ordered. Later, a second plate with a different view of the old courthouse was issued. Then, a plate featuring Tennessee College was ordered. These plate sales contributed a nice addition to our treasury.

In November 1975 Mr. Bruce Plummer offered the Rutherford County Historical Society the right to sell a bank made as a replica of the courthouse. Then, in February 1976, a bicentennial medallion was proposed. The medallions cost ninety-seven and one-half cents and were sold for one dollar. These medallions sold very well and in June of 1976, another 1,000 were ordered. The second order had on the back the obelisk pictured instead of an eagle and sold for two dollars.

In January 1975, a motion was made and passed, that the Society incorporate. A charter was obtained from the State of Tennessee. In April By-laws were adopted by the Rutherford County Historical Society. Also, in June a post office box for the Society was obtained.

An obelisk at the geographical center of Tennessee was taken as a project by the Society on October 1975. Mr. Thomas Steagall donated the rock used in the construction. The obelisk was dedicated on June 26, 1976.

The Historical Society has also been active in recording oral history, microfilming and preserving old wills in the courthouse, purchasing new books and rebinding older historical books in Linebaugh Library, assisting in the Diorama at Cannonsburg, and other historical projects.

The Rutherford County Historical Society began meeting at Middle Tennessee University in the Administration building until December 1971. From February 1972 until May 1974 the Council Chambers of the Murfreesboro City Hall were used, and a place provided for the files assembled by the archivist. Then in July 1974, we moved to the new Murfreesboro Police building. The meetings were held in the court room. An office for the files and storage of extra publications was provided. The city police departments' need for the office space made it necessary to move to the city garage building in the fall of 1980. The building located on west main street has a nice meeting room and office space.

The Rutherford County Historical Society was modeled after Williamson County Historical Society when it was organized. The Society has been successful for the first ten years because of some of the following listed reasons:

1. The Society has been financially strong, due to extra publications, plates, medallions and banks

2. The officers and board members have been active. The officers are asked if they will serve before their election
3. Credit has been given to the ones responsible for their work
4. The County and City governments have been very cooperative
5. Members of the Society have not been required to attend meetings, or be qualified in any way. The only requirement for membership has been to pay their dues, and these cover the cost of the meeting notices and publications
6. The Society has been active in publication, preserving and distributing historical material on Rutherford County
7. The Historical Society has tried to cover all of Rutherford County's history, and not just Murfreesboro or certain families.
8. The Society has held monthly meetings which provide a continued effort on projects, and keep interest aroused.

#### PROGRAMS and SPEAKERS

January	1971	History of Union University by Homer Pittard
February	1971	Geneological Research by Dotty Matheny, Henry Wray & Bob Baskin
March	1971	Diary of Samuel H. Laughlin by Dr. Joe Nunley
April	1971	Rutherford County Archaeology by Travis Smotherman and Ronnie Powers
May	1971	Archaeology of Rutherford County with slides by Travis Smotherman
June	1971	History of LaVergne by Shirley Chaney
July	1971	Shiloh Community, Historical Look by Ben Austin
August	1971	Order of Pale Faces by Mrs. George Watson
September	1971	Medallion found near Stones River Battlefield by Bill Goins

October	1971	Dee S. Jobe by Dr. Homer Pittard
November	1971	Planning Historic Activities by Mary Sneed Jones
December	1971	Ku Klux Klan by Ben Hall McFarlin
January	1972	Hoover Collection by Walter King Hoover
February	1972	Show and Tell by Members
March	1972	Nathan Bedford Forrest by Rep Ed Williams
April	1972	Capitol Grounds Monument by Oren Meredith
May	1972	Research, Try It, You'll Like It by Mrs. Jean Waggoner & Mrs. Cleo Hughes
June	1972	Hood and Forrest by Mrs. H. T. Elam
July	1972	Historic Preservation in Local Area by Mrs. David P. Eberling
August	1972	Log of Christopher Columbus by George Pinson
September	1972	Nomination for National Register of historic sites in Franklin County by Miss Janet Smith & Miss Edith Craddock
October	1972	Development of Style in Cast Iron in NYC by Vaughn H. Glasgow
November	1972	Tour of County Records and Offices by Vaughn Glasgow, Homer Jones, Ben Hall McFarlin, & Mrs. W. H. King
January	1973	Battle of Stones River at Visitors Center by Supt. John Hunter
February	1973	Pictorial Resume of Rutherford County Sites by Mrs. Shirley Chaney
March	1973	Influence of Rutherford Countians upon State history by Dr. Bob Corlew
April	1973	Middle Tennessee Military Maneuvers by Eugene H. Sloan

May	1973	Geology of Rutherford County by Ernie Johns
		Sunday, May 20, 1973--- Tour of Salem, Windrow and Blackman by Bob Baskins
June	1973	Red Cedar Bucket Factory by Bill Patterson
July	1973	Woodworking and Carpenter tools by Forrest Sloan at his shop
August	1973	Formation of Rutherford County - by Henry Wray
September	1973	General Griffith Rutherford by Bob McBride
October	1973	Plans for New State Museum by Jean DeVall Kane
		October 21--- Tour of Halls Hill, Readyville and Kittrell by Miss Mary Hall
November	1973	Human Element in Battle of Stones River by Bob Womack
December	1973	Show and Tell At home of Mrs. Elvis Rushing
January	1974	Research in Historical Subject by Dr. Joe Nunley
February	1974	History of Williamson County by T. Vance Little
March	1974	History of Education in Rutherford County by Baxter Hobgood
April	1974	Show and Tell; National Civil War Re-enactment Society by Members and Ronnie Beane
May	1974	A County Pageant in the Making by Miss Christine Vaughan
June	1974	Slide Show at Sam Davis Home-"A Day on the Farm" by Mrs. Sarah King
July	1974	Plans for Historical Tour of Rutherford County by Mrs. Davis Lynch & Mrs. Ellen Tune
August	1974	Reconstruction in Fourth Congressional District by Michael R. Bradley

September 1974	History of Lascassas by Linda Brown
October 1974	Tennesseans and the Western Movement by Walter Durham
November 1974	Rutherford County's Gift to the Nation by Edythe Johns Rucker Whitley
December 1974	Preservation of Rutherford County Architectural Resources by Dr. James Huhta
January 1975	Netherland Inn Archeological and Restoration by Joe Benthall
February 1975	Tennesseans in Congress 1871 - 1883 by Dr. Robert B. Jones
March 1975	Preserving local Cemeteries by Mrs. W. B. Woodsley, Jr.
April 1975	Andrew Jackson against Andrew Erwin by Paul Crouse
May 1975	Bicentennial in Rutherford County by Dr. Lewright B. Sikes
June 1975	Walking Tour of Square in Murfreesboro by Dr. Homer Pittard
July 1975	Excavations in Nashville's Sevier Park by Miss Jane Henshaw
August 1975	Collection and Preservation of Old Documents by Mike Bradley
September 1975	History of Powells Chapel Church by Dr. Donald R. McRae
October 1975	Visit to Stones River Battlefield Visitation Center
November 1975	Continuing Restoration of Oaklands by Wayne Gray
December 1975	First Banquet Belmont and Adelia Ackler by Dr. Mack Craig
January 1976	Henderson King Yoakum by Dr. Homer Pittard
February 1976	Bicentennial-Slides program on Rutherford County
March 1976	First Presbyterian Church by Dr. Ernest Hooper

April	1976	James Robertson Trek through Kentucky by Mrs. Melvin Barnes
May	1976	Urban Redevelopment Archaeology by Joe L. Benthall
June	1976	Fortress Rosecrans by Dr. Homer Pittard, Bob Ragland, Dr. Ralph Fullerton
July	1976	Tour of Cannonsburgh by Mayor W. H. Westbrooks
August	1976	Mary Neal Kings Civil War Diary by Naomi M. Hailey
September	1976	Bicentennial skit on Revolutionary War by Dr. Mike Bradley
October	1976	McMahon Archaeology site near Sevierville by Brian Butler
		Field trip to Lascassas Area by Mrs. Ben Brown
November	1976	Andrew Jackson by Dr. Sam Smith
December	1976	Donelson Voyage to Nashville by Mrs. Bertha Chrietzberg
January	1977	Coleman Scouts by Mrs. Mabel Pittard
February	1977	Building Tomorrow Today by Col. Henry J. Hatch
March	1977	Folklore and Folksongs by Dr. Ralph Hyde
April	1977	Historic Murfreesboro by Bob Ragland
May	1977	Early Rutherford Schools by Gene Sloan
June	1977	Tour of Stones River Battlefield & Watermelon Cutting
July	1977	Coffee County by David Jacobs
August	1977	The Shiloh Community by Ben Austin
September	1977	Excavations at Fortress Rosecrans by Steven J. Fox



October	1977	Charles Egbert Craddock by Dr. Bob Taylor
November	1977	Banquet - Charlie Cassedy-Early Tennessee Writer by Walter Durham
December	1977	Sellars Mound Site in Wilson County by Dr. Carl Kuttruff
January	1978	The Tennessee State Museum (cancelled) by Dr. James C. Kelly
February	1978	Guerilla Warfare in Middle Tennessee by Dr. Joe Nunley
March	1978	The Tennessee State Museum by Dr. James C. Kelly
April	1978	Five Elderly Homes : Evergreen by Jimmy Ridley Childress Home by Mrs. Kelly Ray Jenkins Home by Aurelia Holden Liberty Hill by Ernest Johns Gresham House by Robert Ragland
May	1978	Soule College by Gene Sloan
June	1978	Show and Tell
July	1978	Forrest's Murfreesboro Raid by Dr. Homer Pittard
August	1978	Fosterville by Elvira Brothers
September	1978	Cannon County Folk Tales by Dr. Bob Mason
October	1978	The Use of the Camera in Historical Research by Dr. Bealer Smotherman
November	1978	The Tennessee Historical Commission by Robert Dalton
January	1979	Goochland by Virginia Gooch Watson
February	1979	Famous Education Horse from Bedford County by Bob Womack
March	1979	Oral History by Sam A. Cameron

April	1979	Trail of Tears by Harry Williamson
May	1979	Early History of Sky Harbor by Franklin N. Knapp
June	1979	Origination of Surnames by Mary S. Corlew
July	1979	Tennessee College by Ida Read and Ethel Herron
August	1979	Isham G. Harris, Governor by Rev. Isham Harris
September	1979	Five Rutherford County Confederate Generals by Dr. Homer Pittard
October	1979	Historic Preservation by Dr. James K. Huhta
November	1979	Banquet - Tennessee State Museum by Dr. Ellsworth Brown
January	1980	Early Davidson County Records by Richard C. Fulcher
February	1980	Show and Tell
March	1980	Polk Papers Project by Dr. Earl J. Smith
April	1980	Main Street U.S.A. by Dr. Jim Huhta
May	1980	John Yates Bell - Confederate Hero by Louise Littleton Davis
June	1980	The Uncommon Soldier by Dr. Bob Womack
July	1980	Politics in Early Rutherford County by Van West
August	1980	Governor Frank Clement by Chris Hagin
September	1980	General Beauregard by Dennis Kelly
October	1980	Slides on Brown's Mill & The Hermitage at MTSU by Students of MTSU
November	1980	Banquet - Josephine Pearson by Dr. Henry Swint

January	1981	Show and Tell
February	1981	Patriotic Envelopes by Sue Ragland
March	1981	Artillery in Stones River Battle by Bob Ragland
April	1981	Sunday--- Eagleville, Triune and Nolensville--- Joint meeting at Triune Methodist Church with Williamson County Society
May	1981	Antique Glass by R. L. Pinson
June	1981	Aspects of Local History by Bob Womack
July	1981	A Tennessee Sampler by James A. Hoobler
August	1981	Sunday--- Joint meeting with Cannon County at Readyville by Dr. Robert Mason, Dr. William Jennings, Miss Mary Hall, Ernie Johns and Beecher Bowen
September	1981	Tennessee Pottery by Dr. Sam D. Smith
October	1981	My Three Years with Jackson by Charles F. Bryan, Jr.
November	1981	Banquet - - Cumberland College by Dr. Ernest L. Stockton

# PUBLICATIONS

Begun in the summer of 1973 and patterned  
after Williamson County Historical Society

- No. 1. COVER: 1819 Map of Rutherford County  
Rutherford County Marriage Records 1851 - 1853  
with Bride Index  
by Henry Wray  
Sojourn in Murfreesboro - S. H. Laughlin's early life  
by Henry Wray  
Rutherford County Militia Commission 1807 - 1811  
by Henry Wray  
Union: Murfreesboro's other University  
by Dr. Homer Pittard  
Specifications for First Courthouse in Murfreesboro  
by Virginia Gooch Watson  
Rutherford County Offices and Officers 1804 - 1873  
by County Clerk's office  
Members of Rutherford County Historical Society
- No. 2. COVER: Drawing of First Courthouse in Murfreesboro  
by Mrs. Charles Pigg  
Rutherford County Marriages 1854 - 1856 w/Bride Index  
by Henry Wray  
Dr. Murfree meets Champ Ferguson  
by Homer Pittard  
Rutherford County Militia Commissions 1812 - 1820  
by Henry G. Wray and Ernest K. Johns  
Occupation Mayor: The Honorable J. M. Tompkins  
by Homer Pittard  
Memoirs of James M. Tompkins  
by James M. Tompkins  
Mayors of Murfreesboro  
by Mayor W. H. Westbrook  
The Ku Klux Klan  
by Ben Hall McFarlin  
History of Kittrell  
by Miss Mary Hall  
Booknote --Cane Ridge History  
Members of Rutherford County Historical Society
- No. 3. COVER: Stone Pipe found near Murfreesboro, from Joseph Jones  
Book on Aboriginal Records in Tennessee
- Rutherford County Marriage Records 1857-1859 w/Bride Index  
by Henry Wray  
Pre-History of Rutherford County  
by Travis E. Smotherman  
Griffith Rutherford  
by Robert M. McBride

An 1803 Census of Rutherford County  
 by Robert M. McBride  
 Rutherford County Militia Records 1821 - 1830  
 by Henry Wray and Ernest K. Johns  
 Rock Springs Church of Christ  
 by Mrs. Robert L. Gwynne, Sr.  
 Booknote -- 1840 Census  
 Members of Historical Society  
 1840 Census  
 by Ernest Johns and Henry Wray

- No. 4. COVER: Civil War sketch of Oakland - unknown  
 from Walter Hoover's Collection  
 History of Readyville  
 by Miss Mary Hall  
 Artists Depict Battle of Stones River  
 compiled by Walter K. Hoover  
 Census of 1810 with list of taxpayers  
 by Henry G. Wray  
 Members of Historical Society
- No. 5. COVER: Guerillas Destroying Railroad train near Smyrna  
 (Actually near Gallatin)  
 The Nashville and Chattanooga railroad in Rutherford County 1845 - 1872  
 by Thomas N. Johns  
 Rutherford County Post Offices and Postmasters  
 by Henry G. Wray  
 Hardeman's Mill  
 by Walter K. Hoover  
 Members of Rutherford County Historical Society
- No. 6. COVER: Asa Houston Sanders Home  
 by Adcock  
 A History of Link Community  
 by W. H. Westbrook  
 History of LaVergne  
 by Shirley Chaney  
 Historical notes on Fellowship Church and Community  
 by Farrar Sanders  
 The Sanders Family of the Old First District  
 by Christine Farrar Sanders  
 Membership of Rutherford County Historical Society
- No. 7. COVER: Hopewell Church, near Milton  
 Sketch by - Jim Matheny  
 Anniversary of this Church  
 by Moses Cranor  
 Minutes of Hopewell Church 1816 - 1821  
 Records of Hopewell Church 1832 - 1883  
 by Laura Lou White Coffey  
 History of Stones River Presbyterian Church  
 by Ester Couch  
 History of Cripple Creek Presbyterian Church  
 by Miss Pearl Youree

Militia Order from Library of Congress  
by Fred Brigrance  
Petition of Cornelius Sanders for Revolutionary Pension  
by Christine Farrar

- No. 8. COVER: Mordici Burgess Wade house at Leana  
Sketch by Jim Matheny  
History of Bethel-Leanna Community  
by Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Sanders  
Crowders of Readyville, Tennessee  
by Mrs. Charles H. Fay  
A view of Stones River Battlefield from New York Times  
by Fred Brigrance  
Record of Jordan Williford's Revolutionary Service  
by Mrs. Elvis Rushing  
Maj. Hardy Murfree's Company Roll Sept. 9, 1778  
by Mrs. D. C. Daniel, Jr.  
Membership of Rutherford County Historical Society
- No. 9. COVER: Dr. James M. Dill  
History of Dilton  
by Rebecca L. Smith
- No. 10. COVER: Whitehall Home of F. E. Henderson  
Sketch by Jim Matheny  
Diary of F. E. Henderson  
by Jim and Betty Matheny  
Peter Jennings - Revolutionary Soldier  
by Eugene Sloan  
Auggie McPeak's Grist Mill  
by Pauline M. Dillon  
Methodist and Murfreesboro in Mid-Nineteenth Century  
by Jerry H. Brookshire  
William, Robert and Nathaniel Overall, Pioneer  
Settlers at the Bluff  
by Lulu Virginia Ramsey McGee  
Membership of Rutherford County Historical Society
- No. 11. COVER: First Presbyterian Church of Murfreesboro  
by Alice Ray and Jim Matheny  
The State Capitol 1819 - 1826  
by Alice Ray  
From Jefferson to Elkhorn Tavern - Ben McCulloch  
by Homer Pittard  
Michael Lorange - Revolutionary Soldier  
by Mrs. Peggy Herriage  
A Country Store 1912 - 1914  
by Jack R. Mankin  
Soule College  
by Eugene Sloan
- No. 12. COVER: Crash at Sewart Air Force Base  
by Jim Matheny  
History of Smyrna (Sewart) Air Base  
by Adeline King

## Goochland

by Virginia Gooch Watson  
 Index to some actual Wills of Rutherford County 1802-1882  
 by Susan G. Daniel

- No. 13. COVER: Tennessee College 1907 - 1946  
 Sketch by Jim Matheny  
 Hallowed Tradition marked Tennessee College  
 by Eugene Sloan  
 Tennessee College Alumnae Association  
 by Eugene Sloan  
 The Coleman Scouts  
 by Mabel Pittard  
 The New Monument in the Old City Cemetery  
 by Julia Clarice Miller  
 James Bole's Revolutionary Service  
 by Edna Fry  
 Members of Rutherford County Historical Society

SPECIAL: Index to Publications 1 through 5  
 by Dotty Matheny Patty

- No. 14. COVER: John Lytle Home  
 Sketch by Jim Matheny  
 First Presbyterian Church in Murfreesboro  
 by Ernest Hooper  
 The Kirks and Montgomerys - by Alexander Montgomery  
 Furnished by Jane Snell Woods  
 A History of the Russell Homestead  
 by Tom L. Russell  
 John M. Leak's Revolutionary Service  
 by Mrs. Edna Fry

- No. 15. COVER: Childress House in Murfreesboro  
 Sketch by Jim Matheny  
 The Childress House -  
 Rutherford County - Evolution of a Whig Stronghold  
 1835 - 1845  
 by Carroll Van West

- No. 16. COVER: Cherry Shade  
 Sketch by Jim Matheny  
 Harts Spring on Taylor Trace  
 by Walter K. Hoover  
 The Childress Family of Tennessee  
 by John W. Childress  
 Young man John Esten Miles went West  
 by Gene H. Sloan  
 The Story of Fosterville  
 by Elvira Brothers  
 A Story of Cherry Shade - LaVergne, Tennessee  
 by James L. Chrisman  
 Petition of William Cocke for Revolutionary Pension  
 by Mrs. Hughey King

- No. 17. COVER: Portrait of Robert Weakley  
 History of Jefferson 1803 - 1813  
 by Kevin Markuson  
 Rutherford County Will Abstracts  
 by Susan G. Daniel  
 Murfreesboro's Old City Cemetery  
 by Mary H. Wilgus  
 Members of Rutherford County Historical Society
- No. 18. -COVER: Christiana Depot  
 Sketch by James Matheny  
 Rutherford County Railroad Stations  
 by Judy Lee Green  
 My Family  
 by Fount Henry Rion  
 Stones River  
 by Samuel J. Lawson, III  
 Corrections and Additions to past issues



## CANNONSBURG AWARDS

These awards are hand drawn by James Matheny. They are well done and highly valued by the authors chosen to receive the award. The award is for the best article in one year (September to September) submitted to the Historical Society. They are judged by a committee appointed by the society president and the award is presented at the banquet held in November.

- |       |  |
|-------|--|
| No. 1 | Publication Number 5<br>Hardeman's Mill<br>by: Walter K. Hoover  |
| No. 2 | Publication Number 6<br>A History of Link Community<br>by: W. H. Westbrooks                                  |
| No. 3 | Publication Number 9<br>History of Dilton<br>by: Rebecca L. Smith  |
| No. 4 | Publication Number 10<br>Methodist and Murfreesboro in Mid-<br>Nineteenth Century<br>by: Jerry H. Brookshire |
| No. 5 | Publication Number 12<br>History of Smyrna (Sewart) Air Base<br>by: Adeline King                             |
| No. 6 | Publication Number 14<br>First Presbyterian Church in Murfreesboro<br>by: Ernest Hooper                      |
| No. 7 | Publication Number 17<br>History of Jefferson 1803 - 1813<br>by: Kevin Markuson                              |

## By-Laws

## RUTHERFORD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## ARTICLE I

TITLE, LOCATION & PURPOSE

1. The official title of this organization shall be "The Rutherford County Historical Society."

2. Its principal office shall be in the city of Murfreesboro; but auxiliary societies may be established at such other points within the County as the Society may designate.

3. The purposes of the Rutherford County Historical Society are to discover, procure and preserve such facts, articles or documents as relate, directly or collaterally, to the natural, aboriginal, civil, political, military, literary, industrial, agricultural, and ecclesiastical history of the County, or of any contiguous area which may affect or have bearing on such matters within the county. It will provide for the preservation of such material and for its accessibility, as far as may be feasible, to all who wish to examine or study it, to cooperate with officials in insuring the preservation of the records and archives of the county and of its towns, villages and institutions, and to undertake or further the preservation of historic buildings or other works of man, monuments and markers. It will disseminate historical information and thus arouse interest in the past by publishing historical material in whatever media may be advantageously available; by holding meetings with pageants, addresses, lectures, papers and discussion; by bringing about the marking of historic buildings, sites and trails; and by the use of available news media will awaken and sustain public interest. It will cooperate with the Tennessee Historical Commission, the Tennessee Historical Society, the Association for the Preservation of Tennessee Antiquities and any similar bodies with which it may have contact to collect and preserve materials of state-wide significance, so that these materials can be made available to students and scholars.

## ARTICLE II

MEMBERS

1. The membership of the Society shall consist of Adult members (who shall be referred to hereafter simply as "members") Junior members, Sustaining Members, Life Members and Endowment Members. Any of the foregoing shall be eligible to hold office or shall be permitted to participate in the transaction of the Society's business; except Junior Members shall not be eligible to hold office.

2. Any person, eighteen years of age or older, who is interested in the purposes of the Society, is eligible to election as a member, under conditions hereinafter prescribed in these By-Laws.

3. Any person, who may be or who may have been enrolled in the grade of high school, or higher, and who is less than eighteen years of age, and who is interested in the purposes of the Society, shall be eligible to election as a Junior Member, under conditions hereinafter prescribed in the By-Laws.

4. Any person, who, by his financial contributions or by the rendering of distinguished services to the Society shall be adjudged worthy of distinction, shall be, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee, approved by vote of the membership at a regular meeting, declared a Sustaining Member for the current year.

5. Any person otherwise eligible to membership who so desires, on satisfaction of requisites hereinafter specified, be declared a life member of the Society.

6. A proposition for individual membership shall be in writing, signed by the applicant, endorsed by two (2) members and accompanied by the prescribed annual dues for the first year. It must be presented at a regular meeting, noted in the records thereof and referred to the Committee on Membership. Upon submission of this report by the Committee, at a regular meeting, or at the option of the Society, a ballot shall be taken on the proposition; if not more than three (3) unfavorable votes be cast, the applicant shall be declared elected. If there be no objection, the ballot may be dispensed with and the applicant be elected by consent; however, by unanimous consent of any regular meeting, a proposition for membership may be voted on at the meeting at which it is presented.

### ARTICLE III

#### FINES AND DUES

1. There shall be no initiation fee.

2. Annual dues for members shall be five dollars (\$5.00), however, for members who may sign the organization charter of this Society, the annual dues shall be four dollars (\$4.00). (Now 10.00 dollars)

3. Annual dues for Junior Members shall be three dollars (\$3.00), however, for Junior Members who may sign the organizational charter of the Society, the annual dues shall be two dollars (\$2.00)

4. Annual dues for Sustaining Members shall be ten dollars (\$10.00). This amount may be increased, at the discretion of the member, to ninety-nine dollars (\$99.00).

5. Dues for Life Members shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00) in a single payment; thereafter, the Life Member shall be exempt from the payment of dues.

6. Dues for Endowment Members shall be one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), payable within any current year; thereafter, the Endowment Member is exempt from the payment of further dues.

## ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

1. The officers of the Society shall be a President, Vice-President, and Secretary/Treasurer. They shall be elected at the regular meeting in September of each year, and shall take office at this time. They shall hold their respective offices for one year, and until a successor in each office is elected. In no case shall a president or vice-president be eligible to succeed himself or herself for more than one successive term. The privilege of voting shall be confined to members present, who must cast their votes in person, according to the form which may be decided upon at the meeting.
2. Vacancies in office shall be filled by election, in the manner of the original election, at the next regular meeting following the occurrence of the vacancy, or at a special meeting called for that specific purpose.
3. If the membership shall state its desire to have voting, either at a regular election or at the occurrence of a vacancy, effected by sending of ballots by mail to each member (who shall mark the ballot and return it to the Secretary/Treasurer) this shall be done, provided the desire to effect elections is unanimously expressed by the membership at a regular meeting.
4. All officers of the Society shall serve without compensation, but the Secretary/Treasurer shall be exempt from the payment of annual dues. Should it become necessary for an officer of the Society to perform travel, or to perform other work which may prevent his or her attention to the normal demands of personal business or industry, a reasonable and adequate compensation may be paid; however, such compensation shall not be paid without prior direction of the President and the concurrence of the Secretary/Treasurer.
5. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Society at which he or she is present, maintain proper decorum, decide all questions of order, subject to appeal to the Society, appoint all committees except as otherwise provided in the By-Laws and shall sign all documents requiring official certification.
6. In the absence or disability of the President, the Vice-President, and in the absence of that officer the Secretary/Treasurer shall perform these functions.
7. The Secretary/Treasurer shall have custody of the charter, seal and records of the Society, shall keep a complete and accurate record of its transactions, attest all documents requiring official certification, notify all new members of their election, keep a complete and up-to-date list of membership, and shall perform such other duties pertinent to his office as may devolve upon him by action of the Society. The Secretary/Treasurer shall conduct the general correspondence of the Society, shall keep a file of all official records emanating from the Society, and shall notify the proper officer or committee of the Society of the receipt of any official communications, keeping a record of all action taken as a result of such communications. In all cases, the President shall be kept advised of the receipt of such

official communications and of final action taken. The Secretary/Treasurer shall have custody of all money due and belonging to the Society, and shall disperse the same under the direction of the Finance Committee. An accurate and supportable record of all receipts and disbursements shall be kept, and an itemized report thereof submitted at the regular meeting in May, and at such other times as the Society may direct. At the proper time, there shall be mailed to each active member and to the officers a statement of the indebtedness to the Society. The Treasurer/Secretary shall give bond in such sum and with such securities as the committee on Finance shall direct, for the proper discharge of his duties; the cost of such bond will be borne by the Society.

8. The Board of Directors shall be composed of the Officers of the Society and three (3) Directors elected in the general election held in September. The President of the Society shall be ex-officio chairman of the Board. The County Historian shall also be an ex-officio member of the Board. The Board of Directors shall meet once every two (2) months, or oftener, as the chairman and a majority of the board shall direct.

9. Within one week after his election, the President shall appoint the following standing committees and cause the appointees to these committees to be properly notified:

- a. A committee on Membership
- b. A committee on Acquisitions
- c. A committee on Finance
- d. A committee on Program
- e. A committee on Publications
- f. A committee on Historic Sites
- g. A committee on Research

The President shall designate one of the members of each of the above committees as Chairman of the Committee; all members of the several committees shall have their term of service contemporaneous with that of the President by whom they were appointed.

10. The Committee on Membership shall examine the eligibility and fitness of applicants for membership in the Society, and report thereon in writing at the next regular meeting.

11. The Committee on Acquisitions shall be responsible for the collecting, cataloging, arranging and placing in proper condition and adequate and safe repository such books, manuscripts, newspapers and other historical source material as may be discoverable within the scope of the activities of the Society. In this activity, they will work very closely in cooperation with the local library, particularly to the end that items suitable as source material or exact copies thereof shall be accessible to students interested in the county's history.

This committee shall be similarly responsible for the discovery, collecting, cleaning, repair and storage of historic objects; for arranging museum exhibits and for the correct historic interpretation of these exhibits. At such time as the collection in the custody of the Society shall reach an appropriate size, the Committee must make arrangements, with the approval of

the Society, for the proper display of its acquisitions in a suitable museum.

12. The Committee on Finance shall examine and report on all bills against the Society, consider and pass on the sufficiency of all bonds required to be given, audit the books and accounts of the Secretary/Treasurer, direct the investment of such funds as the Society may set aside for that purpose, and assign a money value to such items as the Society may acquire, as long as no prior assignment has been made.

13. The Committee on Program shall make arrangements for the delivery by suitable persons, at the meetings of the Society, of addresses and papers on subjects of historical interest. It shall be the duty of the chairman of the committee to communicate to the Secretary/Treasurer, at least one week in advance, all necessary information with regard to an address or other paper to be delivered before the Society.

14. The Committee on Publications shall be responsible for finding ways and means for publishing joint or individual research studies; newsletters at proper periods, a quarterly bulletin; for appropriate and timely publicity by all available media.

15. The Committee on Historic Sites shall be responsible for recognizing the historic sites in Rutherford County. This committee shall document with drawings and records the historic sites, it believes to be a part of Rutherford County history. No site shall be accepted until the proposed site is accepted by the membership of the Society, voting in which a simple majority shall prevail.

16. The Committee on Research shall be responsible for reviewing all research of the members that pertains to the work of the Society to assure that the research is well documented and that historic methodology is followed.

## ARTICLE V

### MEETINGS

1. The regular meetings of the Society shall be held in the evening of the third Monday of each month, except during the month of December, when no regular meeting will be held, at such hour in the evenings may be designated by the Secretary/Treasurer, in the periodic notice to the members; provided that, in case of emergency, the President may postpone the date of a regular meeting for not longer than one week. At each regular meeting, the following order of business shall be observed, unless suspended by agreement:

- a. Calling the role of officers
- b. Reading the records of the preceding regular and any intervening special meetings
- c. Report of membership committee and ballot on applications

- d. Report of other standing committees and of special committees
- e. Report of officers
- f. Presentation and reference of applications for membership
- g. Communications of bills
- h. Delivery of principal address or study
- i. Miscellaneous business
- j. Adjournment

2. The President may, and on the written request of five active members shall, call a special meeting of the Society; but no business shall be transacted at a special meeting except as was specified in the call.

3. The Secretary/Treasurer shall give at least twenty-four (24) hours notice of all meetings, whether regular or not, either by publication in available news media or by mail to the address of each member.

4. At all meetings of the Society, five members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

## SOME EARLY NEWS FROM RUTHERFORD COUNTY

by - Ernest Johns

In 1981, several old newspapers dating in the 1830's or 1840's were discovered in the old home of Enoch Jones in the northeast section of Rutherford County. The newspapers were found by Bill Lynch. They contain some valuable early historical information on the people and places in our county. The following abstracts from the papers give the more significant news. The papers are still fairly well preserved and Mr. Bill Lynch is going to allow the Tennessee State Library to microfilm these rare early newspapers from Rutherford County.

The Courier, Number 19 Murfreesborough, Ten. Saturday Nov. 6, 1830 printed every Saturday. Administrator of James H. Blakely by a decree of the court will sale on Dec. 24 a tract of 91 acres on which the widow now lives-Catherine Blakely. The tract adjoins the land of Robert Miller on the south and east, Campbell on the north, Polly Parker on west Seventy five dollars required down and balance in twelve months.

Lost - On Sunday at Camp Meeting at Walker Camp Ground in Rutherford County a gold bracelet. The finder will be entitled to the thanks of the owner by leaving it with Mr. Rolla Morgan.

Committed to the jail. On the 23 a negro women 45 or 50. She give no satisfactory account of her owner or where she ran away from.

Bacon for sale - John Lytle has on hand five thousand pounds of bacon for sale. He will also exchange for good seed cotton delivered to his gin.

New Goods Advertized -	James Holmes,
	Wm. T. Christy & Co.
	Cloth, women clothing, shoes
	Shapard & Mitchell
	Hardware, Groceries, drugs
	Leinau & Carney
	Bonnets, Hats, Shoes, Glassware
	Hardware and Groceries



Willis Barker

Boots & Shoes and Confectionaries  
on corner of Bank & Lytle Street

Tariff - a much admired Stallion and a full brother of Arab will stand this spring near Murfreesborough - Martin Clark.

Dissolution - James C. Moore & Co. has gone out of business.

Six cents reward - William Carter an apprentice of Abraham Ove(rall?) has runaway. He is sixteen years old.

Estray taken up by the following persons:

Harmon Elrod living on McKnight creek

Nathaniel Wallis living two miles east of Murfreesborough

Thomas Owens near Banton's Ferry on Stones river.

John B. Prewett living twelve miles south of Murfreesborough

James Knight on Kennards creek ten miles south of Murfreesborough

Wm. Witherspoon on McKnight creek

Sherriff sale of the land of James McGill 150 acres on Horse Spring fork of Stones river being a tract granted to said James McGill. Adjoins the lands of Carson & Simpson on east, Whiteside & Poff on the south, Beele on the west & Simpson on the north. Being the tract where the said James McGill & John McGill now live.

The Courier, Vol. II, # 85 Wednesday Feb. 16, 1831 printed every Wednesday

Benefactor- much admired horse will stand for the season commencing on March 10 and ending July 10 at our stable nine miles from Murfreesboro on the lower road leading to Shelbyville half of the time and the other half at Samuel Campbell three miles from Murfreesboro on the same road. Rolly Morgan, Saml. Winston

Young Pacolet - Will stand commencing March 10 at our stable on the lower road leading to Shelbyville one-half of the time and Dr. F. E. Becton

stable three miles from Murfreesboro on the same road the other one half.  
Samuel Winston & Rolley Morgan

Sir Richard - will stand at the farm of Philip J. Burrus five miles north of Murfreesboro near the road from Nashville to McMinnville.

Waterloo - will stand at the stable of Robert Smith in Murfreesboro.

Court Action - Thomas L. Woods has been taken to court for a debt. He now resides in Missouri and is beyond the court's jurisdiction. He lived in Rutherford County until 1828 and was married to Polly Rowton, daughter of William Rowton dec. His wife Polly inherited several slaves now in the hands of Mary Rowton and William Ledbetter asks the court to award the slaves to him.

Petition for divorce - Mildred Palmer has petitioned the court for a divorce from William H. Palmer. They were married in June 1823 and they have one child. Wm. H. Palmer now lives in another state.

Washington Hotel - Robert Smith has again taken possession of the house and would like for the public to call. He also asks for those indebted to the subscriber to make payment as they cannot live on the wind. Jan. 26, 1831

Bradley Academy - Trustees give notice that the next season will commence on Monday Jan. 10 under Mr. Clark M. Comstock A. M. who has presided over the school for the past twelve months. A pair of globes and necessary maps have been procured for the academy. Dec. 25.

Estrays - The following have taken in stray livestock.

James DeJarnett living three miles west of Murfreesboro.

Noah Smith living near Nelson's Mill on Stewarts creek.

Dissolutions - The partnership of Rufus B. Jetton & William D. Hicks has been dissolved. Rufus B. Jetton and Bailly W. Farmer have formed a new partnership and will continue the business of tailoring at the same shop.

Becton & Hartwell have dissolved their partnership. Dr. Becton will continue his business at the place which T. B. Henley recently sold him, three miles south of Murfreesboro. Dr. Hartwell will continue in town. Alexander Rankin has been employed to close their accounts.

Notice - Drury Robison has purchased the interest of N. C. Dill as partner and will continue the business at the same place on the north-west corner of the square. He is making improvements & additions to the facilities.

William R. Stewart - gold and silversmith.

David Shepherd & G. W. Shanklin having purchased a tanyard & stock from Mr. James Bone invite the public to come.

Kine Pock Matter - Genuine and fresh may be had at Dr. Holmes office.

Sheriff sale of land - Five tracts on Feb. 21

1. Tract of 500 acres of David Patton where he now lives on the waters of the east fork of Stones River. Conveyed to David Patton by deed dated Nov. 20, 1809 by John Overton.

2. Tract of 100 acres of Matthew Patton. Tract lies 25 poles west of Charles Wells west corner, beginning on a white oak and hickory then north 100 poles to a black locust & buckeye, then east 160 poles to an elm & hickory, then south 100 poles to a dogwood & ironwood then west 160 poles to the beginning.

3. Tract of 75 acres of Peter Moore & Matthew Patton. Bounded on the north by the military line and includes the premises where Martin Tennison formerly lived.

4. Tract of which acres not know belonging to Peter Moore & Thomas Stokes where they now live. Land adjoins Calvin Curlee on the west, Joshua Barton on the north, Cullen Curlee on the east and on the south by the military line.

5. Tract of 50 acres of John T. Fair, being the place where Gideon Williams now lives. Lying south and adjoining Charles Ready, Joseph Tennison, Hiram Tennison & others.

New Fall & Winter goods - Scrape & Elder have moved to the new building lately erected on the west side of the square by Maj. Ledbetter between Mr. Sperry and the printing office. They have a splendid assortment of goods from Philadelphia, Baltimore and Pittsburg.

Wm. T. Christy & Co. advertises a new line of Fall goods.

The Courier Murfreesborough, Vol II, # 22, Wednesday April 6, 1831  
printed every Wednesday by J. D. Hill.

At a meeting of a number of the citizens of this county at the courthouse on Monday evening the 4th for appointing some suitable person to attend the Literary Convention in Nashville, Maj. John Nelson was asked to be chairman and Dr. P. D. Neilson was appointed secretary. Dr. F. E. Becton was appointed to attend the convention.

Willis Barker has moved to a building on the public square, a few doors south of the Washington Hotel and in the building recently occupied by Mr. R. Spence, selling boots, shoes and confectionaries.

Married - On last Wednesday evening Maj. Henry D. Ransom to Miss Pricilla Manor, daughter of Mr. Mills Manor, all of this county.

Charles Ready announces that he has returned home and will now devote his time entirely to practicing law.

P. D. Neilson offers his services as a physician & surgeon. His office is the one previously occupied by Dr. L. P. Yandell.

Niles and Thomas have formed a partnership offer saddles, bridles and an assortment of plated ware.

Dissolution of Partnerships: James C. Moore & Josiah Nichol trading under the name J. C. Moore & Co. are dissolved. James C. Moore has bought out the other partner and will continue the business.

James B. Davis & Wilson Thomas have dissolved their business. James B. Davis will continue at the same place selling saddles & bridles.

A Sweepstake - now open for two year old colts & fillies to be run on the Hurricane Hills Course, mile beats on Sept. 13 next. One hundred dollars entrance. Benjamin Johnson proprietor Rutherford Co.

For Sale - My plantation on Stones River  $5\frac{1}{2}$  miles northeast of Murfreesborough. It contains about 180 acres and is recommended to those wishing to purchase by a sawmill, grist mill and cotton gin, on a never failing stream. Jonathan Rucker

For Sale - 35 acres with an excellent dwelling and outbuildings Also a tan-yard of twelve vats in good condition. Lying on Long Creek in the neighborhood of Robert Miller. George Jones

Estray - Taken in by John Foster living near Morgan's Mill

Notice - Edward Tatum Jr. & W. B. Morris will survey the 5000 acre tract of John Donelson dec. on April 6 as ordered by the county court. Lying on the west fork of Stones River runs west 640 poles and south 1250 poles agreeable to the grant to J. G. & T. Blount. No. 228

The Courier, Wednesday April 20, 1831 Vol II. No. 94

The circuit court now in session has dispatched all the jury trials. During the term B. G. Coleman was tried for the murder of N. H. Williams in this county last December. He was found guilty. Rev. Samuel R. Davidson is expected to preach at the Methodist church this evening at early candlelight. Jno. M. Tilford advertizes a new and useful invention for sale. A harrow & scraper for cultivating corn and cotton is for sale by him as agent for the inventor. He has enlisted Capt. Burrell Perry, Col. Wm. W. Searcy, Wm. Bennett, George A. Sublett, John Hoover, Wm. Rutledge, Robt. Ross, Wm. James, Henry Maney, Capt. James Elliott, Wm. Elliott, James Mitchell, and Lemuel Reed. The last four named will furnish them ready made. They can also be obtained in Murfreesboro through Dan'l Parker and Mr. Tompkins . . .

Estray - John Foster living near Morgans Mill has taken in a mare

Sheriff Sale of land of Jenkins Whitesides deceased for debt against

his heirs- \_\_\_\_\_, David Whitesides, Richard C. Whitesides, \_\_\_\_\_,  
 Jane Lafferty, James \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Newton Parker and his wife  
 formerly Mary J. Lafferty, \_\_\_\_\_, M<sup>l</sup>Goldric \_\_\_\_\_.

Tract 1 - 1150 acres on main east fork in 8th section, 7th range in Rutherford county. Beginning at three lynns and a hickory the NE corner of said section, running then with the east boundry of the same south 185 poles, to a white oak & elm, then west crossing the river at 80 poles in all 342 poles to two beeches & an ash, then north 585 poles to a red oak, elm & hickory in the military line then with the same to the beginning. Granted to Jenkins Whiteside on May 4, 1809 by grant # 1064.

Tract 2 - 320 acres in the 2nd district 8th range, 8th section on the main east fork. Beginning at three lynns & a hickory the NW corner of said section & the NE corner of his 1150 acres tract, running south with the section line, crossing a creek at 200 poles in all 320 poles to two sugar trees, then east 160 poles to a stake & sugar tree in a field, then north crossing the river at 60 poles & a creek at 100 poles in all 320 poles to a walnut & lynn in thick cane, then west to the beginning. Granted to Jenkins Whiteside on March 20, 1809 by grant # 959.

Tract # 3 - 100 acres lying in the 2nd district on waters of the main east fork in the west boundry of section 8 range 8, beginning at a stake & a dead beech in a field 50 poles south of the SE corner of a tract of 1150 acres of said Whiteside, then with the section line south 160 poles to a sugar tree & beech, then east 100 poles to a beech & walnut, then north 160 poles to a white oak & hickory then west to the beginning. Granted to Jenkins Whiteside on March 20, 1809 by grant # 960.

Tract # 4 - 125 acres in Rutherford county in 2nd district, 7th range, 8th section. Beginning at a white oak & elm in the SE corner of a 1150 acre survey of said Whiteside running south with the section line 200 poles to a beech & sugar tree, then west 100 poles to a beech, then north 200 poles to three sugar trees in the south boundry of the 1150 acres, then with the same to the beginning. Granted to Jenkins Whiteside on March 20, 1809 by grant # 961.

Tract # 5 - 75 acres in the 2nd district on the middle fork of the east fork. Beginning at a beech & walnut the SE corner of a 100 acre grant of said Whiteside on which Thomas Fullows & Frederick Meredith lived, running east 56 poles to two hickories & a dogwood, then south 120 poles to two hickories on the north boundry of a survey of said Whiteside, then west 100 poles to a hickory & sugartree, then north 1-- to a stake in said Whiteside south boundry, then east with the same to the beginning, including the place where James Simpson formerly lived. Grant # 12,469 to Jenkins Whiteside dated April 8, 1818.

Tract # 6 - 45 acres lying on the middle fork of the east fork in the 2nd district, beginning at the NW corner of a 125 acres tract of said Whiteside & in the south boundry of 1150 acre tract... with said 125 acres 120 ....hickory, then west ....., then east with the same 60 poles

to the beginning. Grant # 12,908 to Jenkins Whiteside dated Dec. 19, 1818.

Tract # 7 - 100 acres on the east fork in the 2nd district. Beginning at two hickories & a white oak in Charles Wells north boundry of his 200 acres survey, 25 poles west from his NE corner, runs north 100 poles to a white oak, locust & buckeye, then 160 poles to a hickory and elm, then south 100 poles to an elm & ironwood, then west to the beginning. Grant # 962 to Jenkins Whiteside dated March 20, 1809.

Tract # 8 - 77 acres in the 2nd district, 7th range, 8th section on the east fork. Beginning at two red elms the SW corner of an entry of 68 acres of George Dougherty, then with his line north (crossing a small creek) 48 poles to a large beech marked M, then east 68 poles to a red elm, then south 132 poles to a beech, then east 108 poles (crossing a small creek) to a stake, then north 84 poles to a white walnut, then west with Doherty line 40 poles to the beginning. Grant # 844 to Jenkins Whiteside dated Feb. 9, 1809.

The members of the Hurricane Hills Jockey Club will meet in Col. Robert Smith's tavern in Murfreesboro on Saturday the 23. G. S. Crockett sec'y.

The Courier, Wednesday Jan. 19, 1831 Vol. II No. 81

The person doing the editorial for the paper has left and the editor asked the readers to overlook this deficiency.

The Courier, Wednesday Feb 2, 1831 Vol II No 83

Yeaman Circus will be in town for the remainder of the week. Gymnastic Equestrian, and Theatrical. Doors open at 6 o'clock. Admittance 50 cents, children and servants 25¢. No smoking allowed in the circus.

Estray - Charles L. Davis living on Stewarts creek near Anthony's mill has taken in a sorrel mare.

The Courier, Wednesday Feb. 9, 1831 Vol II No 84

Married on Wednesday evening last Mr. John D. Black to Miss Sarah C. Sublett daughter of Capt. William A. Sublett all of Rutherford. Died at his residence Mr. David Rankin age 61 on Thursday evening the 3rd. Many years a citizen of this county.

The Courier, Wednesday Feb. 23, 1831 Vol II no 86

The Race Horse Defoe will stand at the farm of Phillip J. Burrus.

The Courier, Wednesday March 30, 1831 Vol II No. 91

Died in Dyer County, Tenn. Mr. Mark Mitchell formerly of Rutherford County (no date given).

In Nashville Gen Robert Purdy, U. S. Marshal on the 25th. died.

On the 26th Mr. Henry M'Culloch of this county died.

The Courier Wednesday July 4, 1832 Vol. IV No 157

Locke & Abbott lists a supply of superfine broadcloth.

Auction sale of stock of goods of Chas. B. Egan at his store in Murfreesborough on July 7th. He has wine, brandy, rum, gin, sperm candles, spices, cheese. Also jewelery, saddlery, hats, shoes, boots & a variety of dry goods.

S. H. Laughlin has a farm for sale on the east fork of Stones River below the mouth of Bradley's creek.

The Courier Murfreesborough Wednesday July 11, 1832 Vol IV No 153

Married - On Thursday evening Mr. Collins Farmer of this town and Miss Elizabeth Kelton daughter of Wm. Kelton of the county. On the same evening Mr. Francis Vannerson to Elizabeth W. Elam, daughter of \_\_\_\_\_ dec'd both of this county.

Anniversary - The Temperance society celebrated its anniversary on the 4th. The Hon. J. C. Mitchell delivered an address which was followed by a few remarks by Rev. John Jones. It was held in the Presbyterian church.

Liberal Prices - James & John Holmes wish to buy 20 or 30 negro boys and men between 12 and 25 years of age for cash.

Two volunteer companies have been raised in Bedford County to repair to the Illinois frontier against the hostile indians.

Reward - Fifty dollars for a large black horse taken from his farm eight miles west of Murfreesboro on the night of the 20th John Lytle.



One cent reward - An apprentice to the saddling business named John Hall about 18 years of age. Charles Niles of Niles & Thomas

The following reported taking in Estrays.

- Mrs. Ann Rucker living on the stage road five miles NW of Murfreesboro.
- John Rowen living near Dickinson's mill 2 miles west of town.
- Jacob Hoover living in Hoover's Gap.
- Joshua Clay living 3 miles below Jefferson.
- William Singleton living between Overall and Stewarts creek.
- Willie Sanders living about 2 miles east of Ridley's mill.
- John Todd living on Owl creek a tributary of the dry fork and about 2 miles north of Carson's mill.
- Allen Nance living on the Rocky Fork of Stewarts creek about 2 miles above Nelson's mill
- Jonathan Bateman living on Brawley's fork of Stones River.
- John Snell living near Capt. James M. King on the road from Nashville to Shelbyville.

Turn pike Notice - The Nashville, Murfreesborough & Shelbyville turnpike stock holders are notified that 10 per cent of the stock has been called for to be paid on the first of August.

The Courier Wednesday July 18, 1832 Vol. IV No. 159

An Ordinance to clean up the town due to the threat of Cholera. Five persons appointed to see that the ordinance is enforced. James C. Moore, Moses G. Reeves, M. Spence, Chas. Niles, & John Smith

The Courier Wednesday July 25, 1832 Vol. IV No. 160

Died in this town on Tuesday morning last Jane Deans Hill infant daughter of the publisher of this paper aged 9 months & 24 days. Near Salisbury, N. C. on the 16th last Mrs. Sarah Trott aged about 91

The Jockey Club races will commence on the second Wednesday in Sept.

next. A meeting will be held on the day preceding the race at ten o'clock at the Hurricane Hills course.

The Courier - Wednesday August 8, 1832 Vol IV No 162

A new newspaper in Murfreesborough. The Western Express may begin soon as a paper however the Courier is not afraid of the competition.

Died - Mrs. Elizabeth Wade consort of Capt. John Wade Sr. on Sunday evening aged about 60 years. Leaves a husband and numerous offspring.

On Monday evening the 6th Mrs. Catherine Warren consort of William Warren and daughter of Col. John Thompson, aged about 40 years. Leaving a husband and children

To Undertakers - Proposals for the building a brick meeting house will be received until Tuesday the 21. A plan of the house may be seen at Dr. Becton by bricklayer and carpenters who will likewise receive proposals - The commissioners.

A new cotton gin shop under the name of William & Alfred Elliott at William Elliott's residence three miles south of Jefferson. Cotton gins of the best materials will be forwarded to any point on the Mississippi.

Estray - William G. Parrish living 4 miles south of Murfreesborough.  
 - Barnett Elliott living on Stewart creek.  
 - Hubbard S. Wilkerson living 6 miles west of Murfreesborough.  
 - John Lawrence living at Black Fox Camp

The Courier Wednesday August 15, 1832 Vol. IV No. 163

Twenty five cents reward for a bound apprentice boy to the carpenter business named Thomas Simmons - James M'Dowel of Murfreesborough.

Taxes for 1832 for each type of property:

For every 100 acres	41 cents
For every white poll	31½ cents
For every black poll	54 cents
Four wheel carriage	11.00 dollars
Two wheel carriage	5.00 dollars
Each town lot	32½ cents

The Courier Wednesday Aug. 29, 1832 Vol. IV No. 165

Married on Tuesday evening by Rev. Eagleton. Mr. James Elder to Miss Elizabeth daughter of Charles Niles of Murfreesborough. Married on Monday evening by William Gilliam esq. Mr. John D. Murphy to Miss Lucretia daughter of Mr. John Watkins all of this town.

The Courier Murfreesborough Wednesday Sept. 5, 1832 Vol. I No. 1  
 Spinning Factory - Mr. Lowry late of Kentucky has within the last eight or nine months completed a spinning factory in our town. It is now in operation and at present there are about 200 spindles. A new Post Office has been established at Lascassas in this county and Valentine M. Sublett appointed postmaster. A Camp meeting by the Presbyterians commencing on Thursday evening the 13 at Kelton's five miles southeast of this place.  
 Died - In the county at the residence of Major R. H. Mason on the 30th Mr. - - - Mason in the 80th year of his age. For forty years he had been a member of the Methodist church. His wife died about sixteen years ago. On Friday 31 Miss Margaret daughter of Mr. Ezra Jones. On the same day Mrs. Susan Tear wife of Richard V. Tear.

Notice - Having disposed of the Courier J. D. Hill would like to collect from persons owing him money. On the front of the paper the new owners are listed as P. G. Warren & J. W. White.

Sheriff Sale - A tract of 150 acres belonging to the heirs of Thomas Ivey dec'd, Littleton Screws and Malinda his wife, Abraham S. Ivey, Margaret I. Ivey, Sarah M. Ivey, and Margaret Jane Ivey all heirs of Thomas Ivey. Land lying on the west fork adjoining Dr. Calhoun on the north, Sam'l Bowman on the west, James Daniel on the south, and Nathaniel Perry on the east.

Another tract on the east fork known by the name of the Cummin's Mill tract that belongs to David Abbott will be sold on Saturday before

the third Monday in November. Joins John Hoover on the north and was bought from John M. Tilford by said David Abbott. (part of this gone).

J. Currin has sold his stock of goods to Mr. G. I. Cain he wish to close his books and would like to collect all debts.

George I. Cain has an ad for business on the north side of the square, opposite the market house. He has 100 barrels of salt on hand.

Dissolutions- Niles & Thomas have dissolved their partnership. Wilson Thomas has bought the stock of saddlery and will continue the business at the NW corner of the square.

Doctors Maney & Rucker have dissolved their partnership.

Locke & Abbott have an ad for superfine cloths, groceries, glass & hardware.

The Courier Sept. 19, 1832 Vol. I. No. 3

W. B. Cooper portrait painter has an ad for his services in a room over Dr. Ruckers office.

Mr. S. Charaux offers his services as a teacher of French. He is now to be found at Maj. Reeve's tarvern. Young ladies can receive private instructions.

A Refutation of Campbellism on sell at our store - W. Ledbetter & Co.

The Courier Wednesday Sept. 26, 1832 Vol. I. No. 4

On Thursday the 27 at 9 o'clock the students at Bradley Academy will commence examinations. They will embrace Greek, English, Geography, Algebra -----, & Arithmetic.

Cooking stoves for sale by Wm. T. Christy & Co.

The Presbyterians held a camp meeting five miles from this place on the 13th and concluded on the 19th at which upwards of fifty persons professed religion.

The Methodist held a camp meeting at Norell's camp ground in Bedford County at the same time at which over sixty made a profession of faith. Also another at Bennett's camp ground at which forty professed faith.

Nashville Republican Banner - Wednesday March 2, 1842

From the Murfreesboro Telegraph - Wm. Gilliam an old resident was drowned last Wednesday while attempting to cross Stones River. His body has not been found.

The Murfreesborough Telegraph has been purchased by Mr. J. W. Smith and the editorial department is to be conducted by his brother W. H. Smith recently one of the editors of the Huntsville Advocate. E. Harriman Esq. was apparently the old owner of the paper. The new owners state that they will continue to be strong supporters of the Whig principles.

Three Rutherford County citizens published petition for bankruptcy Wilson H. Kerr, Jesse B. Parrish, and Reuben Boiles.

National Banner, Sept. 1, 1835 Nashville

\$100 dollars reward - runaway from John W. Traylor and Wm. B. Traylor of Rutherford Co. on the night of the 5th of July. Two likely negro men. Jim about 25 years old 5 ft. 6 inches, dark color, slender, speaks quick, had on black cloth coat, bangup pantaloons, & a black fur hat about half worn, weighs about 150 pounds. Gideon about 28 years old, 5½ to 6 ft high, stout, speaks slow, has large white eyes. He had on rather in-different cotton pantaloons, a woolen roundabout & an old black fur hat. Both of them were purchased in May at Norfolk, Va. & may go there or try to go to a free state. Twenty five dollars for each if caught in this state and fifty each if caught in another state.

Republican Banner Dec. 31, 1839 Nashville Vol. 15 No. 1

Runaway - from James Morton living near Stewartsborough in Rutherford Co. a negro boy named Tobe. He is about 12 years, dark complected with a little copper tinge. He left in June and may have gone to Nashville as he has been there several times with my wagon.

These additional Nashville newspapers were found, however, no news was found in them of Rutherford County.

National Banner	April 19, 1831	# 16, Vol. 6
National Banner	April 26, 1831	
National Banner	June 7, 1833	# 33, Vol. 8
National Banner	Nov 1, 1833	# 43, Vol. 8
National Banner	Dec 26, 1834	
Republican Banner	Oct 24, 1842	# 43, Vol. 17
Republican Banner	Feb 13, 1843	# 7, Vol. 18
Republican Banner	July 17, 1845	# 29, Vol. 20

Our thanks to Bill Lynch for allowing the use of these fragile early papers to be abstracted in March, 1982.

Some Biographical Sketches  
from  
"History of Macon County, Illinois"  
by - John W. Smith 1876

HISTORY

OF

# MACON COUNTY,

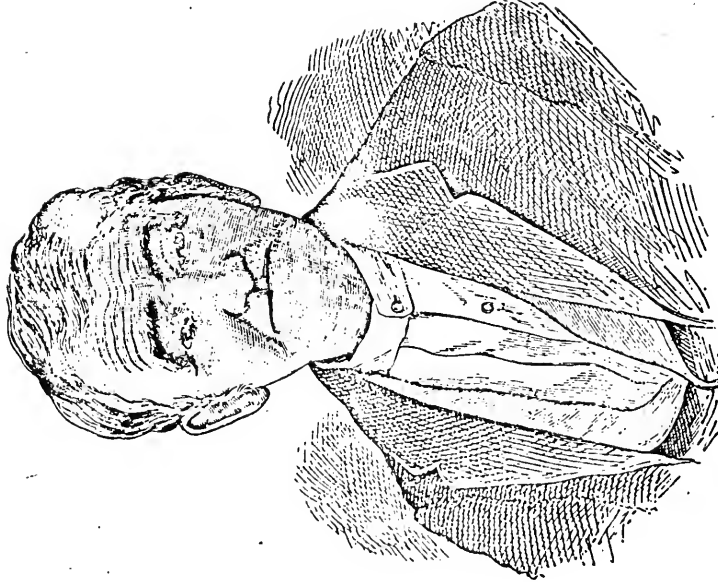
ILLINOIS,

FROM ITS ORGANIZATION TO 1876

BY

JOHN W. SMITH, ESQ.

OF THE MACON COUNTY BAR.



JOSEPH STEVENS.

THE FIRST SETTLER OF MACON COUNTY.  
[NOW LIVING.]

SPRINGFIELD:  
BONNER PRINTING HOUSE.  
1876.



## BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES of EARLY SETTLERS

JESSE AUSTIN was born May 3, 1818, in Rutherford county, Tenn., and moved to Macon county in 1831; was married in 1847 to Catharine Faris. Of their seven children -

NANCY E. was born July 2, 1848; died 1853. JOSEPH H. was born Feb. 16, 1850. ROSETTA A. was born Sept. 14, 1851, and was married to Wm. Getts, March 24, 1870. WILLIAM I. was born July 16, 1853. MELLISSA E. was born August 25, 1862. ELIZABETH was born April 2, 1865. MARY J. was born Oct. 3, 1857

NEWTON N. BAKER was born in Lincoln county, North Carolina, February 28, 1803; moved to Rutherford County, Tenn., when he was eleven years old, and moved to Macon county in 1830 and settled 5 miles east of Decatur; was married to Tabitha J. Hodge in 1835, and died May 27, 1872. His wife was born in Orange county, North Carolina, in 1814, who came to Illinois in 1829, and settled in Sangamon county, remained one year and then removed to Macon county; she is still living in Decatur. Of their children -

AMZI H., was born in 1836; was married to Anna White, in 1867, and is now living in Decatur. MARY C., was born in 1839; was married to S. C. Davis, in 1857, and is still living in this county. JOSEPH N., was born \_\_\_\_\_, and is now living in Decatur. JAMES W., was born \_\_\_\_\_, also living in Decatur.

DAVID DAVIS was born in Lincoln county, North Carolina, May 2, 1798. At the age of 17 he emigrated to Rutherford county, Tennessee. In 1828 he came to Illinois and settled in this county. At the age of 23 he had the misfortune to become paralyzed in his lower extremities, and throughout his long life he walked with great difficulty. Notwithstanding this, he was ever energetic, and gathered a handsome competence for himself, and provided liberal means for beneficent charities. He died August 19, 1875. He was once county treasurer and one of the judges of the first election held in Macon county. He was married to Mary Martin September 28, 1825, who was born in Rutherford County, Tennessee, November 15, 1806. Of their children -

ISABELLA C. was born August 17, 1826; was married to Michael C. Rozzell, November 4, 1845. WILLIAM M. was born January 14, 1831; was married to S. J. Nicholson March 23, 1854. SYLVESTER C. was born June 8, 1834; married to Mary C. Baker, September 3, 1857. MILTON Z. was born August 29, 1835; married to Emma Eichinger, September 3, 1865. MARY P. was born January 11, 1838; married to Hiram G. Wheeler, October 11, 1855. ELIZABETH E. was born September 6, 1811; married to John Rucker, December 28, 1858; died January 24, 1862. JOHN L., was born December 22, 1842; died April 26, 1865. TRAUGHEER L. was born March 2, 1845; was married to Mendosia Houseman, September 25, 1873. MARILLA A. was born January 2, 1847; was married to Thomas J. Odor, September 28, 1869.

JOHN McMENNAMY was born March 10, 1793, in Rutherford County, Tenn., and came to Macon county in October, 1826, with his brother-in-law, James Ward. He removed to Texas in 1839, and died there. Of his children-

JOHN H. was born in 1814, in Tennessee, and has been constable in Macon county for 20 years. His wife died some 25 years ago. He had two children -

GEORGE, who died a few years ago, and Dr. B. F. Mc MENNAMY, now of Moultrie county.

LUCINDA (now Martin) who reside in Harriestown township.

THOMAS H. READ was born February 24, 1798, in Charlotte county, Virginia, and died on the first day of September, 1874, in the city of Decatur. His father moved from Virginia to Rutherford county, Tenn., when Thomas was quite young. In the spring of 1831 the Doctor moved from Tennessee to this county; was married on the 24th of August, 1836, to Elizabeth Allen, of Loudon county, Virginia, who was born on the 4th of August, 1812, and came to Macon county in 1835. Names of children -

JULIA E. was born September 8, 1837, and died October 21, 1837.

JOHN N. was born August 11, 1839. MARY S. was born March 22, 1841.

ANNIE H. was born February 2, 1843, and died August 24, 1864. JAMES A. was born May 26, 1846. EMMA F. was born August 31, 1848. SUSIE C. was born January 12, 1831.

JAMES SANDERS. There are but few old settlers of the county who do not remember "Uncle Jimmy Sanders." He was one of the noted men, and almost every one knew him, by reputation at least, for an area of a great many miles. He was born in Spartanburg county, S. C., June 15, 1800, and was taken on a packpony when very small, to Rutherford county, Tenn., where he remained until he was grown. In 1823 he married Polly Wilson, who was born in North Carolina in 1797, and died in Christian county, Ill., in 1866. In the year 1829, he removed with his family to Illinois, where he has remained ever since. On his arrival in Illinois, he says he had a wife, five children and an "old plug of a wagon, three old plugs of horses, one good mare, 6¼ cents in money. The money he had in his pocket with his shot and bullets a short time after his arrival, which he accidentally lost, and was thereby "broken up." Mr. Sanders was a man of most powerful constitution, and his strength and endurance were probably not excelled by any man in Central Illinois. On the day of Uncle Joe Stevens' wedding, Mr. S., in a general trial of strength among those persons present, took a piece of lead, 75 pounds in weight, in each hand, and raised them on a level with his shoulders, and then passed them around straight in front until they touched each other. At one time he had been sic for some length of time, and when he had sufficiently recovered to walk to the blackberry patch, he gathered his hat full of blackberries, and then sat down and ate them all. He returned to the house and said, "Polly, I have eat a few blackberries and feel better."

He was known far and wide as a good rail-maker, and would go as far as 15 and 20 miles and make rails for parties at 25 cents per hundred, or 37½ cents in trade, which he regarded as a very liberal price. He was a man that possessed a great many peculiarities, a particular mention of which, would extend this sketch quite too far. He relates to-day, with pride, as one of his greatest achievements, the fact that he at one time in a wrestling match, threw down \* Abe Lincoln, who had thrown the bully

of the county. Of Mr. Sanders' children -

ELLEN was born in 1823, and now resides in Kansas. JOHN, their second, died in the Mexican war. JAMES B. died in 1854. JANE, wife of Prestly Travis, resides in Christian county. PETER H., PEGGY, MATILDA, BETHANY and AMANDA, are dead. FRANK, the youngest child, was born in March, 1845, and married Annis Hollingsworth, with whom Uncle Jimmy now resides.

\* NOTE: It will be remembered in this connection, that Mr. Lincoln, when he first came to Illinois, was a resident of Macon county, and he and Mr. Sanders were great cronies and friends. Uncle Jim says that they spent many Sundays together fishing in the Sangamon, and were often together at barnraisings, house-raisings, fox-chases and wolf-hunts. At these early gatherings, when Mr. Lincoln was an awkward gangling boy, he was often called upon, when the work was through, for a Jackson speech, and he seldom failed to respond. Mr. L.'s father was a Jackson Democrat, and his son grew up in that faith, and has made a great many Jackson speeches in this county. He afterwards changed his politics and became a Whig of the most pronounced type, which incensed his father no little. Mr. Lincoln commenced his law studies in this county under the following circumstances: He had gone to "Uncle Billy Warnick's" to see one of the girls; but in going, his shoes not being good, he got his feet frost-bitten, and was unable to return home. He remained there for a week or ten days under the medical treatment of Old Mrs. Warnick, and while so doing became greatly interested in reading the statutes and a few other stray volumes of law-books, which, no doubt, afterwards materially determined his course in adopting his profession. It was reported in the newspapers during the campaign of 1860, that Mr. Lincoln in his early day was a great rail maker; but Mr. Sanders says that while it is true that "Abe" did make some rails, yet they were few in number. Mr. Sanders also relates the circumstance by which Mr. L. ceased to be a resident of this county, which is this: A man by the name of Offit purchased a few hundred hogs, and Mr. Lincoln and his step-brother, John Johnson were employed to assist in driving the hogs to market at Beardstown. When they had disposed of the hogs they invested the money in groceries, which consisted, as Uncle Jim says, of "sod-corn," spun-cotton, sugar and coffee, powder and lead, etc., the greater part of which were brought back as far as Salem, where they started a grocery, and Mr. Lincoln was left in charge of the goods, to keep store. This was the last of Mr. Lincoln's personal history in connection with this county. Mr. Sanders' last interview with Lincoln was but a day or so before Lincoln's departure for Washington. As they were separating-which proved to be their last-Mr. Sanders said, "Now, Abe, don't do any wrong." Mr. Lincoln replied, "I will not, if I know it."

JOHN SMITH was born June 28, 1796, in Rutherford county, Tennessee; where he married Margaret Wilson, who was born at Guilford C. H., North Carolina, July 25, 1801. They removed to Illinois about 1829 or '30, and settled at Mt. Zion, where he died, a few years since, loved and respected by all who knew him. Of their children -

MARY J. was born November 10, 1822; died at 18. GEORGE A. was born April 6, 1825; died July 29, 1873; married Elizabeth Wilson and as second wife Martha Wilson. LOUISA C. was born May 2, 1829; married Rev. J. C. Smith. CANDOR R. was born November 17, 1832; died at 13. NANCY M. was born November 20, 1837; married W. S. Parr.

ROBERT SMITH, Sr., was born in Guilford county, North Carolina, September 11, 1782. His father removed to Tennessee, near Nashville, about the year 1803, and remained there about a year, and removed to Stones River, near Murphreysborough, where he remained until his death, in 1830. Mr. Smith removed to Illinois in 1828, and located in Sangamon county, where he remained until the spring of 1828, when he came to Macon county, where he settled about six miles south-west of Decatur, and died in 1855. His father whose name was also Robert, was engaged in the Revolutionary war, and was taken prisoner in North Carolina. Robert was with Jackson in the battle of New Orleans. His first wife was Elenor Wilson, who died in 1824; he afterwards married Jane Allen, who now lives in Mt. Pleasant, Iowa. His children were - Andrew W., Nancy, Robert, Wm. C. and Margaret; all by his first wife.

ANDREW W. SMITH was born in Rutherford county, Tennessee, November 25th, 1806. He married Elizabeth Blankenship, who died in 1831. afterwards married Rebecca R. Smith, January 28, 1836; who died in November, 1875. He was a member of the old county commissioners court for several years, and was engaged in the Black Hawk war; he was with the company of rangers that went out from Macon county, towards the head of the Sangamon, in the vicinity of Cheney's Grove. He died in October, 1875, just one month previous to the death of his wife. Of their children -

ELIZABETH M. J. was born March 14, 1832; she married Jos. Trobaugh, and now lives in Texas. ALEXANDER A. was born November 25, 1838; was married to Laura Jacobs, October 7, 1869. He now resides in Wheatland township. ABIGAIL E. was born July 30, 1840; was married to B. G. Henry; who now lives on the Lewis Ward place. MARGARET A. was born September 5, 1844; was married to Nelson Odor, October 6, 1868; now living in Wheatland township.

WM. C. SMITH was born in Rutherford county, Tennessee, July 5, 1819, moved to this county in 1828, from Sangamon county; married Leacy J. Pope, February 17, 1842, who was born in Wake county, North Carolina, October 25, 1819. Of their children -

JOHN W. was born February 9, 1843; married Mattie J. Weekly, September 1, 1868; now resides in Decatur.

GEORGE R. was born October 2, 1844; died November 17, 1845. WILLIAM B. was born January 5, 1847; married Elizabeth Goff, July 2, 1867; now lives in Wheatland township. ROBERT H. was born November 27, 1849; married Belle Wilson, September 23, 1875; now resides in Blue Mound township. SARAH E. was born February 5, 1852. JAMES M. was born March 20, 1854. DANIEL C. was born March 24, 1857; died September 23, 1857.

LEWIS B. WARD was born in Logan county, Ky., January 17, 1809, and removed to Illinois in 1819, and moved to Macon county in 1824. On the 23d of December, 1830, he married Elizabeth Walker, who was born September 8, 1813, in Rutherford county, Tenn., and became a resident of Macon county in 1829; died June 7, 1852. Of their children -

ALFRED was born October 16, 1831. MARY J. was born November 18, 1833; married S. B. N. Vaughan. ELIZABETH was born March 13, 1836; married Woodson Parker. ROBERT was born June 13, 1838. CAROLINE was born November 14, 1840; married J. B. Moore. HARRIETT was born November 26, 1844. REBECCA was born November 29, 1846. LEWIS J. was born February 26, 1848. NANCY A. was born May 15, 1852; died September 28, 1853.

Mr. Ward was married a second time to Matilda Parker, who was born August 14, 1832. He sold his farm in Macon county in the fall of 1876, and removed to Girard, Kansas, prior to which he was the second settler, in point of arrival, residing in the county. From him we derived most of our information in reference to the Ward family and Ward settlement. He fixes the dates of the erection of the first houses in the county in the following order: 1st, William Downing's, south of Sangamon; 2d, Leonard Stevens', in Stevens' creek; 3d, Abraham Sprague's, just south of fair-ground; 4th, Hubble Sprague's, on the inside of the present fair-ground inclosure; 5th, William King's, a short distance south of the fair-grounds. Mr. Ward says the first mill in Macon county was on Stevens' creek, and was built by William King in 1826, which was afterwards owned by and known as Renshaw's mill; also, that the first house in the limits of the old town of Decatur was just north of Priest's Hotel, and was built by Reuben Miller, who sold out to James Renshaw, in which the first store was kept. He also states that the first school house in the county was on the old Widick place, now owned by P. M. Wickoff, three and a half miles southwest of Decatur, and was erected in 1825, and the first school teacher was "Frozen" Taylor; and that the second school house was on land now owned by W. C. Smith, erected in 1828, in which one Nelson, "a little Yankee," taught. At this school house Abraham Lincoln went to singings and spellings. In the spring of 1826 Mr. W. raised 1,800 pounds of cotton in Macon county.

D. K. WILSON was born March 27, 1825, in Rutherford county, Tennessee; came to Macon county in 1835, and was married to Mary J. Dickey, February 25, 1845, who was born July 31, 1827, in Florence, Alabama, and came to Macon county in 1829. of their children -

SAMUEL was born April 17, 1846; was married to Eveline Dresback in September, 1868, and died January, 1877. MARGARET C. was born December 17, 1847; was married to S. B. Betz in March, 1869. ELIZA J. was born October 8, 1849; died April 16, 1866. ANDREW was born September 1, 1851; was married to Ella Bundy April 13, 1875, who was born April 26, 1859, in Piqua county, Ohio; came to this county in 1875, and died December 15, 1876. SARAH A. was born October 25, 1852; was married to R. J. Ross December 9, 1874. MARY E. was born January 17, 1858; was married to Marian Ranabarger, February 27, 1876. ZARITHA M. was born December 3, 1859. WILLIAM A. was born December 8, 1862. JOHN W. was born April 27, 1865; died September 17, '67. GEORGE W. was born July 28, 1868.

BENJAMIN WILSON was among the early and prominent citizens of Macon county, and came here in 1827, and was one of the county commissioners who assisted in the county organization. He held the position for a great many years. He was born at Guilford Court House, in North Carolina, and removed then to Tennessee, and afterwards to Illinois. He married JANE WARNICK in the state of Tennessee, who was a sister of "Uncle Billy" Warnick, the first sheriff of the county. Their children were, POLLY, (see

Sanders,) RACHEL, (see Hill,) PEGGY SMITH, (see John Smith,) ROBERT, NANCY, HANNAH, (see Blankenship,) and -

JOHN WILSON was born in Rutherford county, Tennessee, in 1813, came to Illinois in 1828, and was married to Nancy Wilson, March 1, 1832, who was born July 6, 1813, in Greene county, Tennessee, and became a resident of Macon county about 1830. Of their children -

BENJAMIN T. was born August 19, 1836; died February 5, 1854. MARY A. was born October 23, 1833, and married JOSEPH M. DAWSON, who was born April 5, 1828. Of their children -

John A. was born July 8, 1853. Thomas M. was born April 6, 1855. Nancy A. was born January 19, 1857; died December 29, 1857. Luella B. was born August 4, 1859. C. E. was born January 18, 1863. Edwin P. was born December 17, 1864. Oscar W. was born April 26, 1867.

WILLIAM WHEELER, Sr., was born in Virginia about 1790, and married ELIZABETH HAYS, who was born in the same State. Mrs. W. died about 1836, Mr. W. in 1866. Their children were, James, Stacy, Henry, William Jr., Elizabeth, Raleigh, Burton, Larkin and Nathaniel. Mr. Wheeler and family removed to Illinois and settled in Macon county, in 1828.

JAMES WHEELER was born in South Carolina in 1799, and died in 1867. His wife was Margaret Mayberry.

STACY WHEELER was born about 1800, and married William Christopher, and died about 1831.

HENRY WHEELER was born in 1801, in Tennessee, and was married in Tennessee to Mary Y. Braden, who was born January 4, 1800. Of their five children -

ELIZABETH E. was born May 7, 1826; married David Brett; died 1864. SAMUEL R. was born August 16, 1827; married Jamina Abrams, who was born in 1828, in Illinois. WILLIAM E. was born October 23, 1828; married Ellen Frazee; he died 1875. NANCY J. was born January 9, 1830; married Samuel Woodward, first husband; Mason Packard, second husband; now resides in California. ANDREW J. was born January 16, 1832; married N. E. Cox, who was born in Scott county, Illinois, 1837.

WILLIAM WHEELER, Jr., was born on the 28th of Dec., 1809, in Rutherford county, Tennessee; was married Oct. 27, 1831, to Sarah A. Ward, (daughter of Jerry Ward,) who died in August 1869. Mr. Wheeler has been prominently connected with the affairs of the county, and has been repeatedly elected sheriff, assessor and collector. Of their 10 children, but two are living, viz: -

MARY E., who married Thomas Inscho, now resides in San Jose, California; and Lewis Cass. ANDREW M. died in '69; CALVIN R. died in '61; LUCINDA K. died in '63; WILLIAM L. died in '66; HENRIETTA died in '62; JAMES C. died in '51; Thomas B. died in infancy, and ALICE died in 1874.

ELIZABETH WHEELER was born in 1811, and married William Ward, the father of Franklin and Hiram Ward, well known in the county.

RALEIGH WHEELER was born in 1813, and died in 1834; his first wife was Rebecca Travis, and second Mary Fields.

BURTON WHEELER was born in 1815, and resides in Moultrie county, Illinois.

LARKIN WHEELER was born in 1817; died in 1838.

NATHANIEL WHEELER was born in 1819; died when young.

IRA WARNICK was born in Tennessee, Augst 7, 1823; he moved to this county in 1825, and settled at the place afterwards known as the William Warnick place, and has ever since resided in this county; was married to Julietta Priscila Burke, April 17, 1843, who was born in Kentucky, June 30, 1822, and came to this county in 1840. Of their nine children all of which are now living -

JAMES W. was born April 11, 1844, and married Ann E. Stevens, September 14, 1869. ELIZABETH E. was born May 10, 1846; and married Edward Hill. ARTHUSA D. was born August 6, 1848. THOMAS T. was born December 30, 1851, and was married to Mary E. Lynch, in February, 1874. NANCY C. was born February 18, 1853, and married S. P. Falconer, Sept. 18, 1873. MAJOR M. was born March 13, 1855. HENRIETTE L. was born December 10, 1857. JULIETTA A. was born September 27, 1860. IRA G. was born March 7, 1864.

WILLIAM WARNICK, was born in 1784, in North Carolina, and married \_\_\_\_\_, who was born the same year. He removed from North Carolina to Rutherford County, Tennessee, and thence to this county, in 1825. He was the first sheriff of Macon county after its organization, and held the office from 1829 to 1835, and was also re-elected again for two years, in 1840. He was in the Black Hawk war, and participated in the famous Stillman's defeat, where he received a slight flesh wound. He was also captain of the rangers, during the same difficulty. It was Mr. W. who, as sheriff of the county, whipped Redmon and Wyatt, by order of the court, giving them 39 lashes apiece. This was the only punishment of the kind ever inflicted in the county. Mr. W's father, James Warnick, was from Ireland, landing in New Castle, August 15, 1758. Their children were -

JOHN, MARGARET, POLLY (first wife of Joseph Stevens). JAS., LUCINDA, BETSY (married John Taylor), CLARK, IRA, ROBERT, SARAH (Married Benj. Taylor; now dead.) Mr. W. died February 12, 1855.

## THE YEAR 1981 in RUTHERFORD COUNTY

by

Cathy Goode

## JANUARY

A public meeting was held in Smyrna by the state Department of Transportation concerning the proposed route of an access road from I-24 to the new Nissan plant. The two proposed routes suggested by the Department of Transportation were met with disapproval from local residents, and no formal action concerning the road was taken at this time.

The Rutherford County Board of Commissioners approved a resolution to recommend that the County support a Duty-Free Trade Zone. To be located near the Nissan plant site, the area would be a sub-zone of the trade base zone planned in Nashville.

Wherry Housing Action Committee has proposed to form a co-operative and rehabilitate the County owned housing units on the former Sewart Air Base in Smyrna. Wherry could become the State's first converted co-operative community.

Heritage Farms Dairy is under construction in Murfreesboro. The Dairy is Kroger Company's milk processing plant, and all milk will be procured within a 100 mile radius of Murfreesboro. Tentatively scheduled to open in August, the Dairy will employ 85 persons.



Construction has begun on the new livestock pavilion at MTSU. Dedication ceremonies will be held in early August. The Tennessee Livestock Pavilion is located on the MTSU campus. Among the features are a heated show ring, hog pens, space to tie 400 head of cattle, a portable raised sale ring and a nearby horse ring.

A new Smyrna elementary school is under construction on Sam Davis Road. The school will have an ultimate enrollment of 800 students and is expected to be completed March 1982.

President Carter signed into law the National Historic Preservation Amendments Act of 1980 and the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980. The new bill supersedes The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

#### FEBRUARY

Ground-breaking ceremonies were held on February 3, 1981 for the new Nissan truck plant. Dignitaries attending the ceremonies included Marvin Runyon, President of Nissan Motor Manufacturing Corp., U. S. A., Nissan Ltd. Executive Vice-President Masataka Okuma, Governor Lamar Alexander and Smyrna Mayor Sam Ridley.

The University of Tennessee Press has published "Stone's River: Bloody Winter in Tennessee" by James Lee McDonough.

Murfreesboro Cable TV and Rutherford Cable TV will begin to expand their services to County residents.

Middle Tennessee Electric Membership Cooperative announced construction of a substation in Smyrna on the old Air Base property.

The Stones River Guardian, a new weekly newspaper has begun publication.

## MARCH

The Eagleville Bicentennial Public Library which is currently located in the old City Hall and Jail is raising funds to build a Library and Community Center.

Developers unveiled plans for a luxury condominium complex on East Main Street in Murfreesboro. The complex will be named Childress Court in honor of Sarah Childress Polk.

Construction has begun on the access rail line to the new Nissan plant. According to the state Department of Transportation, a tunnel will be built under Highway 41-70S and the access line will run from the current L & N line to the rail yard planned at the Nissan site.

Plans were announced for a new Fire Hall and elevated water storage tank to be built in Smyrna. Located on property southeast of the city, the Fire Hall and storage tank would serve both the city and the Nissan plant.

A new entryway to the VA Hospital on Highway 231 was completed this year. The old entrance was constructed in 1938, and the new entryway will provide a safer entrance and exit from the Hospital grounds.

Rutherford County Utility District announced plans for a new water plant. The facility will be located at the intersection of the East and West Forks of the Stone's River near Old Jefferson Road and will draw water from Percy Priest Lake. Construction will take approximately two years.

#### APRIL

Construction has begun on the first phase of Georgetown Square, a 128 acre residential development in Murfreesbor located off West Northfield Blvd. and Georgetown Square. Ground-breaking ceremonies were held in March.

Dedication ceremonies for the new nature trail and Park at Oaklands were held this month.

Kentucky Fried Chicken in Smyrna moved into their new facility in early April. Local civic and business leaders attended the ribbon cutting ceremony.

#### MAY

The Tennessee Agricultural Museum at the Ellington Agricultural Center in Nashville has been opened to the public. The museum contains primitive agricultural machinery and hundreds of other objects from our rural past. The Tennessee Agricultural Hall of Fame is also housed at the Museum and honor men who have made substantial contributions to farming in the state.

A new water storage tank is under construction on top of Shiloh's Hill in Murfreesboro. The tank will hold 3 million gallons of water and will aid the City in stored water supply in case of a water shortage.

Sponsored by the Arts and Humanities Council of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County, a Street Festival was held this month. Consisting of 76 different booths, the attractions varied from arts and crafts to entertainments and promotions of local organizations.

#### JUNE

Rutherford County's Judicial Offices will begin this month to move into the new Judicial Building located on the West side of the Square. The building will house two General Sessions courtrooms, two Chancery courtrooms and a Circuit courtroom.

Ramo, Inc. announced plans to build a machine-gun factory in Smyrna. Currently located in Davidson County, the new facility will be built underground with solar heating.

Mrs. Jean MacArthur, a native of Murfreesboro, received the History Award from the local chapter of the DAR. The Colonel Hardy Murfree Chapter presented the award to Mrs. MacArthur for her outstanding contributions to American history. Also honored was astronaut Rhea Seddon Gibson, a native of Murfreesboro.

Sponsored by the Necedah Bow Hunting Club, a five acre hunting course has been opened to the public. The archery range is located be-

tween the Poole Knobs Recreation Area and the Percy Priest Wildlife Management Area. The course consists of 14 targets and is about one mile long.

## JULY

Smyrna's first radio station, WSVT, will begin broadcasting this month. The Station will cover all of Rutherford and most of Davidson and Williamson Counties, as well as part of other Middle Tennessee Counties.

The Industrial Development Board approved a bond package for a metal fabrication plant. Quality Metal Products Co. Inc. plans to build at a site on Waldron Road in LaVergne.

On June 21, 1981, after 5 years of planning, the twinning of LaVergne, France and LaVergne, Tennessee occurred in Southern France. Mayor A. C. Puckett of LaVergne headed the group which also included 5 LaVergne youth and several local citizens. In addition to the twinning ceremony a tree-planting ceremony was held by both Mayors.

Uncle Dave Macon Days were held on July 10 & 11. A motorless parade was held through downtown Murfreesboro. Banjo, fiddle, guitar and string band competitions all paid tribute to the native of Rutherford County.

Stone's River National Battlefield was host for a Civil War living history encampment. The reconstructed historical Union campsite

also featured several demonstrations of how to fire a cannon. "Soldiers" from Kenesaw Mountain, Ga. and Chicamauga National Battlefield also participated along with several who cooked meals on the campground.

Hardee's, the newest restaurant in Smyrna has opened. Located in the Smyrna Square Shopping Center, the restaurant will have a staff of 30 and a seating capacity of 90 persons.

#### AUGUST

The County Industrial Bond Board approved an inducement contract with Capitol Air, one of the fastest growing air carriers in the nation. Capitol now occupies 9 buildings and 4 trailers on the old Smyrna Air Base. The Company would like to construct an office building to consolidate all its personnel.

The Bond Board also recommended a bond issue with United Bolt and Screw Co. of Dearborn, Michigan which plans to build a plant on Salem Pike in Murfreesboro near Heritage Farms Dairy.

#### SEPTEMBER

Citizens Central Bank has announced plans to move from their existing branch office on Lowry St. in Smyrna to the corner of Enon Springs Road and Highway 41-70S.

Commerce Union Bank of Rutherford County announced plans to open a branch office in Smyrna.

Granny White's Kitchen opened in LaVergne.

The U. S. Postal Service announced their decision to locate the new Murfreesboro Post Office on South Church St.

A new fire service has been formed in the County. The Rutherford County Fire Department, staffed by volunteers, will replace the past Civil Defense operations.

Dedication ceremonies for the Rutherford County Judicial Building were held September 13, 1981.

#### OCTOBER

Two Murfreesboro developers has purchased the old Home Journal Building on West Main St. and plan to turn it into office condominiums. The building was constructed in the 1920's and held the bi-weekly newspaper, The Home Journal which was the predecessor to the Daily News Journal.

#### NOVEMBER

Sponsored by Historic Middle Tennessee Association and Murfreesboro-Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce, 27 Nashville tour brokers participated in a special tour of the County, its historical sites and other points of interest. The Chamber of Commerce hopes that this special tour will encourage tour groups from Nashville to visit the County.

Results of the Smyrna City Election are as follows:

Sam Ridley-----Mayor

Sam Griffin----Commissioner of Health and Public Safety

Frank Johns----Commissioner of Taxes and Revenue

Paul Johns-----Commissioner of Fire, Police and Parks

Kenneth Victory---Commissioner of Justice



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